

A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM

Vol. VI

SEPTEMBER, 1911

No. 1

CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE

ORGAN OF THE

National Congress of Mothers

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST BY THE
NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS, 227 SOUTH
SIXTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

50 CENTS A YEAR

10 CENTS A NUMBER



Entered as Second Class Matter, Nov. 29, 1909, at the Post Office at Philadelphia, Pa.,
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EDITORIAL BOARD: MRS. FREDERIC SCHOFF, MRS. J. P. MUMFORD,
MRS. HOWARD W. LIPPINCOTT, Chairman Magazine Committee.

Send subscriptions and all communications relating to THE MAGAZINE to
Business Manager, 227 South 6th Street, Philadelphia.

Send orders for literature and loan papers to Washington office, 806 Loan and Trust
Building. MRS. ARTHUR A. BIRNEY, Cor. Secretary.

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The President's Desk

GUARDIAN OF HEALTH Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, Pure Food specialist in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has well earned another title by his brave, persistent work in protection of the life and health of American people. Guardian and Defender of the Home is the title every mother and housekeeper would give him. The manufacturers of impure foods and drugs leave no stone unturned to remove from office this foe to all "doped and doctored foods."

The latest attack has brought into prominence the universal appreciation of Dr. Wiley's work. Protests from many sources have been made against the effort to remove him. Nearly a hundred prosecutions against manufacturers of harmful foods and drugs were brought in July. Several thousand prosecutions have been made since the enactment of the Food and Drugs Act. The prosecutions in July cover adulteration of tomato catsup by many firms, adulteration of evaporated apples and peaches, vinegar, maple syrup, frozen eggs, flavoring extracts, flour, shelled peanuts, coffee, salad oil, ice cream cones, condensed milk, cheese, and pork and beans. Many different makers of headache cures are also prosecuted for harmful ingredients contained in these drugs.

Merely reading the names of the foods adulterated shows clearly that every household is in danger without the work done by Dr. Wiley.

The enactment of the Food and Drugs Act by Congress, and its enforcement have been a battle every step of the way. Every mother has a vital interest in this work. Every Mother's Circle should give its influence and earnest support to Hon. Harvey W. Wiley, Guardian of Health and Homes in the United States.

PARENTS' conference in Paris in June on "The Value of Parents' CIRCLES Circles." Leaders in pedagogy assisted, and the interest IN FRANCE aroused promises well for the organization of parents' circles in France.

The need for them is great. In one village in the French Alps sixty-five children died of scarlet fever before it was known that the disease was contagious. Ignorance on these subjects is criminal in this age. France is greatly distressed over its low birthrate. It cannot afford to let children die because of ignorance as to contagious diseases. Mothers' Circles should always study all questions of this kind. There is no greater duty owed by parents to children than to give them the chance to live, and to be safe-guarded from disease.

There are doubtless many villages and towns in America where there is no knowledge as to contagious diseases and the safeguarding of others. Mothers should organize everywhere as a means of protection to childhood. The mother who has the knowledge cannot save her children from the results of others' ignorance unless she takes measures to remove that ignorance.

PARENT-TEACHER at its convention in Sedalia unanimously agreed ASSOCIATIONS to turn over the work of parent-teacher asso- IN MISSOURI ciations to the Mothers' Congress. There has been no branch of the Congress in Missouri, and under Mrs. Weeks' leadership the Federation has mothered the work. She expects soon to form a state branch of the National Congress in Missouri.

Mrs. Philip Moore cordially expressed her approval of the action, saying that "It is specialized work and special workers should be interested in it."

It has been the chief work of the Congress since 1897.

The National Association of Colored Women has a Mothers' Department, and the movement for mothers to organize for child study has extended to the negro women.

The President of the National Association is Miss E. C. Carter, 211 Park Street, New Bedford, Mass. The head of the Mothers' Department is Mrs. S. Williams, 1438 Enterpe Street, New Orleans, La.

It will greatly aid the leaders in this excellent organization if members of the Mothers' Congress will speak of it whenever possible, and encourage the negro mothers to unite with the National Association of Colored Women. It augurs well for the future that such an organization has been formed, and is meeting the questions of the negro race in a spirit of self-helpfulness and thoughtful study. The Mothers' Congress wishes them God-speed in their work.

Greetings from Belgium, Greece, China, Persia, Italy, Great Britain

TO SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON CHILD WELFARE

BELGIUM

HERR PAUL HAGEMANS, Consul-General of Belgium, representing League of Home Education and Royal Government of Belgium, said:—Ladies and gentlemen, my presence here as a delegate of the Belgian Government and of the Belgian League of Home Education bears witness to the elevated and profound interest that Belgium has taken in the question of children. It is hardly necessary to remind you of the fact that out of the three congresses of the League there have been organized, so far, two in Belgium, the first in 1905 under the auspices of the Belgian Province, the second in Brussels last summer where our president was present under the eye of His Majesty of Belgium. Both of these had a very large attendance, not only of private individuals, but

also of official delegates representing twenty to twenty-five governments. The work done then as well as in 1907 has been most commendable, but, as it is shown by this Congress, there are still many questions that are yet unanswered. I am afraid I shall have to leave to more competent ones than I the honor of trying to solve them, for I am sorry to say I am not a specialist in pedagogy. But if I have not made a study of the numerous arguments in the welfare of the child, I tell you frankly that no one is more interested in them than I am, and I congratulate myself, therefore, on being able to hear what American women and the women members of this Congress will say on this subject of vital importance to all the nations of the world.

GREECE

DR. JOHN CONSTANZ, delegate from Greece:—Ladies and gentlemen, I take the greatest pleasure in coming before this distinguished gathering to-night as a representative of the Grecian Government, and I have the honor to convey to you the expression of the Greek message of appreciation for the aid of this great world movement in the city. Personally, in my own recognition of the enormous value of the care of the child, it is quite a surprise to me

that it is the second international congress instead of being the fiftieth. So obvious is the importance of the work, so relevant with all that is uplifting to humanity,—the human race—that it is a wonder such great work has failed to gain a great impetus long before. For if one gives it superficial consideration one cannot avoid being impressed with the great breadth of the subject. On the welfare of the child, in my opinion, and its relation to the school,

church, home and state, the welfare of the nation depends.

Perhaps you all remember the old axiom that in the rearing of the young is the foundation of the state.

In conclusion I wish much fruit from the contributions to this work, and I again express my thanks for the Grecian Government for the honor of saying these few words of greeting to you.

CHINA

CHUNG WEN-PANG:—Ladies and gentlemen, as a representative of China I thank you very much for the courtesy of your invitation to the Congress here to-day. It is a great pleasure to me to be present here to-night and see so many representatives of kind, good-hearted, sympathetic people who are interested and have been active in the noble and important work of this association. I admire and congratulate you for the success and the good you have been doing through this association, and

I have no doubt that much greater work will yet be accomplished in the near future. As a delegate I want to learn all I can of what the association has done for the welfare of the child in this great country, and I believe that what has been done here to-day will be soon done in China to-morrow. And when my belief or hope becomes realized, it is you who are to receive the credit as leader. This sounds like a mere encouragement to the association, but you have already become a fact.

MOTHERS AND CHILDREN OF PERSIA

MME. ALI-KULI KHAN, MORAVEH-ES-SULTANEH]

Delegate from Roya Persian Government to Second International Congress on Child Welfare

Persian women make really devoted mothers of the highest spiritual quality and inculcate in their children that ancient virtue of obedience. So perfectly obedient is the Persian child that I think the fine courtesy, the dignity, and the perfect manners for which Persians are generally famous may be attributed to the devoted care of the mother in the home, and to this perfect obedience on the part of the Persian child. As a Persian child is known to be very robust physically, and particularly high-spirited and strong-willed, it is all the more to the credit of Persian motherhood. Persian women are very gifted and have brilliant minds. I do not find the nation

asleep; I do not find it a nation of dreamers; I find it an extremely wide-awake, progressive people, very versatile, very brilliant, and most energetic. In the towns and villages, and in some of the tribes, the physical qualities of the children are quite remarkable. They are most vigorous and robust; many of the diseases known to childhood in other lands are unknown there. For various reasons some of the weighty problems that confront mothers of western civilization are unknown in Persia. This is partly owing to obedience on the part of the child; to the inculcated reverence for those older than themselves, for their teachers and their parents, and partly

due to the strength, beauty and truth of the family tie, to the religious law of the land, as they are intensely religious. We do not hear of reformatory schools, of police provision, of probation officers, and some of the things we are obliged to hear about here.

Because Persian women have been veiled for many centuries, and are separated from men at the age of nine years, certain evils at times endangering the morality of women in other lands are unheard of in Persia. Since the new regime the doors to all freedom and progress of all modern lines of education are open in Persia. We know how very gifted the people were, but in the older days up to the age of nine the little girls went to school with the boys and there studied reading and writing in their native language, native poetry and classical wisdom, but at the age of nine the little girl retired into the home, veiled her face from men, and thereafter assisted her mother in the care of the home and the children. If the little girl belonged to a wealthy family, certain women teachers came and continued her studies, but if a poor child her wonderful gifts, with which many Persian women are endowed, received no further development. They stopped because there was nothing more open to the girl in that land whereby she should receive the benefit of modern education. Since the new regime has been adopted in Persia the women are doing most wonderful work. They are uniting to bring modern education to their girls; very eloquent Persian women are sent out to give addresses; long letters in

the press are sent throughout the country, and women are called together in many movements for the uplift and benefit, particularly the educational uplift, of the women and the girls.

About five years ago I founded a school for Persian girls, and the idea was that I should found it on American lines. Altogether within the last five years thirty schools for girls in Teheran alone have been founded. This work is largely due to native ability and energy. The boy, at the age of nine, entered the one college in Persia in the old days, and then he went on to Europe if his family could afford to send him. This college had been founded and professors engaged to teach European languages, but of all this the girls were deprived. Now these things are very rapidly changing. I hope very much to organize a school for girls in Teheran, to begin with certain American lines wherein modern ideas of hygiene, such as the care and rearing of infants, will be very carefully taught to young mothers and young girls, and where other practical forms of knowledge such as we enjoy in the West will also obtain.

I want to say that since I had the privilege of listening to the report of the President of the International Congress of Mothers I am more than ever eager that a notice of this body shall come particularly before the Regent of Persia, and before the young Shah, who is but thirteen years of age, and who is being brought up on democratic lines. Twelve young boys from the different classes of Persia are taking part in all of his classes. I

want him to know of the wonderful work that the International Congress of Mothers is doing for the women, the girls and little children in America, for I am sure that he would beg of this Congress to introduce a branch into Persia so that Persian womanhood may be in touch with their western sisters in many of the lines along which your Congress is interested and in which so many devoted workers spend so much time. And if during the week of this Congress any of you feel interested to ask me questions relating to the gifts of Persian women and girls I shall be most delighted to answer you.

When I said there were certain conditions which were unheard of in Persia owing to certain customs of the people which represent certain sterling virtues among them, and their social customs which assist them along these lines, I omitted to state that intoxication is rarely seen or heard of; as to suicide, perhaps one may hear of a case once in ten years. The same may be said of murder.

Every woman nurse who goes to Persia to assist these mothers, any woman doctor who goes to serve the mothers and children of Persia, any woman teacher, from America, will be received with open arms and open hearts, and she will find among the women great ambition, great talent, wonderful zeal and every good human quality. The heart and mind are intensified in Persia. The beauty of nature was perhaps intensified, the wonderful color of the heavens, the brilliancy of the firmament, the wonderful perfume

of the flowers, the plumage of the birds, the sweet song of the nightingale, the scent of the roses. This glorious climate is a splendid background for the people of Persia. In the homes of the nobility and in the humblest homes of the land, dignity, mother-love, home devotion, a spiritual, high-elevated womanhood, exist; and I have found among the boys and the girls uncommon precocity of brilliancy and love of use. These wonderful characteristics made Persia the glorious and mighty empire that she was in the past.

Now this people is waiting, and I hope that the friendship between the Persian and the American which I see growing every day may flourish into a most wonderful blessing, and it will be a mutual blessing and a mutual exchange, you bringing to the Persians practicability, they giving you the heart gifts, the soul gifts, and mind gifts, and there will be a wonderful result.

In a few years the little Shah will, I trust, take his rightful place. Now the Regent is in charge, with ideas of progress and liberalism that will benefit the women and girls. This has simply been going on and waiting for favorable opportunity.

A very eloquent letter to the Government through the press beseeches the Government to appoint a department of training in hygiene and training in things that assist the mother and the child. In the words of one of the modern minds of Persia: "Let not a man glory in that he loves his country; let him rather glory in this, that he loves his kind."

ITALY

LIEUTENANT MERRIGIO SERRATI, the delegate from the Royal Italian Government, said:—

I am sorry that my English is too poor to express to you, as I wish to do, the honor and the pleasure that I feel in having been appointed as delegate of the Italian Government to this Second International Congress on Child Welfare. Every year Italy can supply North and South America with several hundreds of thousands of emigrants. Italy is a very old country, but still a young nation, and the principal aim of young nations must be to raise strong and good citizens. In the last year efforts have been made through the government establishing special labor, hygiene and school laws for the protection of mothers and children, and in the principal

towns private institutions have been established in the interest of child welfare. Such institutions can always find great moral and also material help from our gracious Queen, whose modesty shows in her personal life. It is universally known that not even greatness should justify a mother for not being interested in the welfare of her children. Italy will always be specially interested in what the United States does on this subject on account of the great number of Italian children who would be benefited from such a movement in this country. This is why I am glad to give all my attention to the present Congress, which I consider to be one of the greatest manifestations of the heart and will-power of the American race.

THE PARENTS' NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL UNION,
GREAT BRITAIN

Mrs. BERRY HART, Edinburgh, Scotland
Delegate to International Congress on Child Welfare

It is with great pleasure that I come here representing the British Parents' National Education Union. During the last sixteen years I have been a member of it, and for eight years I had the honor to represent it as secretary, to my great benefit and enjoyment. I should like to tell you something about this little work of ours, because in this great gathering, and at this time after the meeting this morning and after the speeches you have heard to-night it does seem a small thing, but then you must remember that it comes from a small country. I feel very

much as if I were asking you to come from a high mountain gazing on a great prospect, and look into the view-finder of a photographic camera, because there you will find in miniature what you have been hearing about on such a very large scale.

The Parents' Educational Union was founded over a score of years ago by Charlotte Mason, a very able instructress. She came in contact with many of her pupils, and through knowing their mothers and fathers (because we make an effort specially to include the fathers), she

started this movement. We never enroll a mother on our list without adding her husband's name. In all my experience through these eight years I was only once asked to remove the name of a father. That was a very curious thing to happen, and I do not know that it has ever happened to any secretary before or since. You may draw your own conclusions about the father who wished his name removed.

The Parents' Union has many activities, and it was founded in response to a demand from thoughtful parents for right methods of instruction in the art of educating their own children. I do not know if any of the many here have ever asked a mother if she would become a member of the Mothers' Congress, and have been told that after all she thought she knew best how to bring up her own children. I know that I have met this, and occasionally the reply comes from a mother who really does know how to bring up her own children. Her only mistake is that she thinks she can bring up her own children and pay no attention to all the rest of the children in the world, which is clearly impossible. This Union has about forty branches in Great Britain and one in Australia and one in Ceylon. We have requests from China, from the different settlements, and places where there are isolated families who wish to have the benefit of Miss Mason's books. The P. N. E. U. was founded to bring into touch with each other the fathers and mothers and the instructors. That is our great aim, and I think it is true that we have

had our greatest success because, in the first instance, the training is to go to the child at home. Last night I spoke to a lady right here in this room who told me that she really did not think it was time to join the Mothers' Congress because her child was only eighteen months old. Now it seems to me a little late to think of beginning at eighteen months, but I hope that what has been left undone may still be put right by all the good that that mother will receive from this great association which fills me with admiration.

Our work, as I told you, specializes in regard to our own children, although on our list we include parents of all classes. While we are preparing our own children to take their places in the world and to fill the situations in life which are open to them, we are preparing them to help others. In our society we do not have the great influence and aims that you have; we do not legislate; we do not effect great issues; we regard children directly, and as individuals we are all so keenly interested in this question of questions with regard to children that we naturally give all the time we can to that. Our one desire is that the fathers and mothers shall be first interested in their children and other little children; that the father should have his share in the interest in the little child. So often I hear mothers say, "My husband does not care for the children until they are big." I think this is very unnatural and I am sure it is the mother's fault; I am sure if she presented the child to the father in the right light, if she presented the immense possibilities which affect that child, its present

and its future, that the father would be interested. Every intelligent, intellectual father with common-sense would know that his interest counted for a great deal in the development of his child.

Charlotte Mason began by writing and by organizing. She has written five books which contain her philosophy of education. These five books are: "Home Education," "Parents and Children," "School Education," "Some Principles of the Highest Form of Education," and "Ourselves." The last is a particularly interesting book. It is written for boys and girls; the first volume is meant to be read by children after the age of sixteen, and the second volume is for those above sixteen—sixteen to twenty. These volumes are called "Ourselves, Our Souls, and Our Bodies." The special attention of the mother in the early years seems to be given to the body of the child, while at the same time it cannot be, unless it is given to a great extent to the soul of the child. The basis of this union is a religious basis. The basis of all education must be religious because we believe that the end of education is that our children may know God aright, and out of that knowledge may learn to love Him and to wish to imitate Him and to be like Him. Take it by what name you will, call it by whatever title you may, that principle of goodness is, after all, divine, and it is the divine unto which we wish our children to become related. Goodness is the one great aim in all their development. The principles of authority on the one hand and obedience on the other are absolutely natural and funda-

mental. I think that is one thing we must recognize. We in this age are so apt to think that freedom is everything for our children. We do not wish them to be pushed forward, to have too many lessons; we do not want them to do anything they wish not to do. That surely is an altogether wrong standard that we should set up for our children. They should be brought up on the simplest possible lines when they are young, and what we have to do is not to unduly influence them through our affections or through any feeling or desire to make them go in a certain way; we must not interfere with the personality of the child as a person. A child is a person born with great possibilities of goodness and also with possibilities of evil. We cannot say that our children are absolutely good. By healthy, inspiring environment the formation of habit is one of the strongest principles that we have; habits of order, obedience, and observation are what we want our children to acquire. I do not think that a child an hour old is too young to learn. The right presentation of ideals is indeed the only instrument in our power to use for our children's education. We have no right to force them in many ways; we have no right to inspire them to overstrain their strength, either mental or physical, but we have a right to give them a healthy, simple environment, to give them the benefit of natural, well-trained habits, to give them the inspiration of great ideals.

We neglect very much one great source from which they may draw their ideals, and that is the world

of books. You will hear a mother or father saying that it does not really matter what Johnnie learns at school so long as he learns how to learn. Of course that is nonsense; a child must learn ever so much at school, not only by listening to lectures but by reading, by having his imagination fired, by having his enthusiasm stirred by the great books of those who have gone before and left us this heritage. We neglect a great deal if we do not encourage our children to love and reverence books, and to care to have them with them always. There is so much to be learned, and we know so many great men who have learned almost all that they know from books. We may not admire the character of the great Napoleon tremendously, but he was a marvelous genius, and all that he had that was wonderful and amazing he learned from the books he read. He had digested them and he produced his great triumphs as the result of what he had read and remembered. Unfortunately our memories grow rather weak these days; we do not train them, and the result is that we do not remember the wonderful things that we read, and we must remember these if we are to open up to the child the natural and wonderful world of thought and inspiration; we must introduce him early to books. To the young child we read books; the older children will take care of themselves.

Charlotte Mason has instituted among her other activities a Mothers' Educational Course, which includes the reading of educational books and the passing of examinations, by young mothers especially.

I know many hundreds of young mothers in England who have been stirred to enthusiasm, who have been aroused to interest in their children's welfare, by reading Miss Mason's books. You have here many splendid books and libraries.

First we have the habits, then the inspiration of books, and then we come down to the physical training, or rather more than the physical training because we include in that all things that have to do with living—outdoor exercises, the interest in nature, all physical exercises. Then on the other hand we have science and arts and these wonderful living books. We also teach early the way of the will and the way of the reason. It is that every young child may learn to distinguish between "I won't" and "I will." That is the first little lesson he must learn. Dr. Helen Webb, a distinguished member of our society, has written a most interesting paper called "Thought Turning." I myself have found it very useful, and I know many others who regard "Thought Turning" a help for small children where they find it difficult to resist temptation. We teach them that when temptation comes to think of something else at once. We do not expect them to have wonderful strength of will to resist everything that comes to them. I once heard a woman say on one of our platforms that all children were liars. It made a horrible impression, so horrible that in a few minutes, after a very heated discussion, that woman left the platform. We do not call all children liars, or nearly all children liars. The other day in New York at a

luncheon party a young mother told me that she was much disturbed by the fact that her little son was a liar and a thief. I asked her how old he was and she said four. I then asked what ideas she had presented to him with regard to the truth, and she had evidently done nothing but ask him to confess. I remember, at a large committee meeting where we were discussing this question, a very eminent clergyman of the town said: "I wonder how many here in this room can say that they never told a lie, and that they never took what was not their own," and there was not one voice raised. So we must be very careful that the child has the proper idea presented to him very early as to what his opinion is with regard to the truth, what is true and what is not true, what is his and what is another's. That is a most important thing.

In the Education House at Ambleside there are about thirty young ladies who have been very well and thoroughly educated, and who are now preparing to become teachers in families. We have quite a lot of home education in England, although not nearly so much as we used to have. Miss Mason's House of Education is a most delightful, beautiful house, situated in a beautiful neighborhood near Ambleside, where these ladies have teaching in science, elementary science, in nature study, which is so important for children, and in good music. This last is so important for children that we ought to let them hear as much good music as possible. It is a wonderful factor in the education of children of all

classes. We neglect it shamefully and we should pay more attention to it. Then they learn languages exceedingly well. A young child ought always to be acquainted with more than his own language; it is so easy to teach two at once, and I am surprised that every child does not learn two languages instead of one in the beginning. They learn also all sorts of handicrafts, which are also very important. These might be taught in the home if mothers were a little more considerate and would give their children work to do about home. It does not matter how many servants one has in the house there are always little things that a child can do, because the handling of fine china or the touching of fine things teaches or practises his hand in its use so that when he comes to handicrafts he is ready to handle the tools; he is not so likely to cut his fingers as he would be if he had not been able to do anything before.

We have the Parents' Schools, and they provide for children who are educated at home and also for the children who are willing to come under the rules which are laid down by Miss Mason. The examination papers are set, the courses of study laid out, and the children are classified according to their ability. We do not believe in prizes, in places, or in marks. These things are really no test of the actual progress that the child has made. What is a test? First, what he has done in the time according to his ability. It is by that test that we attempt to prove the progress of all the children that are included in the school. A large number of these schools are under

the guidance of Miss Mason. We have our lectures just as you have yours; we have our magazine, just as you have; and we use the lectures, the addresses that are given in the various branches; they are published, and the press of the different towns and centres is glad to have these excellent addresses. We hope that you will perhaps even consent to acknowledge us as a branch of your great society here so that in

the future our wider work may be more akin to the wide work that is done by the Mothers' Congress in America. I shall go home full of inspiration, full of interest, full of delightful possibilities to our mothers, but we must remember that those of us who have our own children owe first duty to them. We cannot possibly help others until we have helped them, and we cannot help them unless we help others.

The Duty of the State to the Children

By HON. WILLIAM H. DELACY
Judge Juvenile Court, Washington, D. C.

I BELIEVE that we owe more in the development and progress of America to the intelligent women of the country than we do to our law-makers or to our so-called wise men.

The state is, of course, all of ourselves united together to ensure our rights, to redress our wrongs, and also to take measures for the rights to foreigners, whether these foreigners be members of the family of nations like ourselves, or whether they be rude savages.

Now since the state is intended to protect rights it brings us very quickly to the consideration of the rights that grow out of the family. The state is intended to protect rights; the state does not create rights; nature creates rights, and the state conserves the rights.

The relation of parent and child is not state-made; it is God-made, and the state simply endeavors to conserve the rights growing out of its relationship, and in its conservation it should not become so perniciously active as to destroy that

which was conserved. Now the state, in other words, was made for us; we were not made for the state. The state is our servant, and the state in dealing with the family relationship should do everything in its power to conserve that relationship. It should not think that it is doing something for the family by breaking it up and taking the little ones and placing them under the control of agencies set up by the state. I think that the benefit or improvement would be altogether as questionable as the dentist who would pull out our good teeth and give us a store-made variety in their place.

The Juvenile Court is another expression of our need for one another; it is another expression of the meaning of our whole form of government. Our country is a great fraternity. The founders of this government realized that the country was given to the child, but that all the people had a right to share in the administration of the

government, and it became necessary that all the people be of the intelligence to carry on the operations of the government. That the people should be not only intelligent, but moral; their ideas should be high and pure, because on the conditions under which we live depends the welfare of the nation. And so provision was made by the founders of the world to teach all the people to make a magnificent foundation for the public schools of the country. You know that when the great lands of the west were laid out they served as foundations of the school system, to be extended into these newly created commonwealths, and the foundations for enabling these communities to provide state universities, and to do their work along the line of training the great body of the people in intelligence and in virtue. The Juvenile Court is a further acknowledgment on the part of the state of its duty to conserve the rights of the child. The rights of the child include, of course, protection, support and education. If the parents are taken away by death or some other untoward reason, then the state's duty is manifest in the case of this particular child, and we usually regard them as dependent children. Then in the case of the children who violate the laws of the community we have grown to feel that they are not criminals simply in the sense that the adult is a criminal, but that these children are simply lacking in direction, education and control, and that they need not so much punishment as they need correction, and so the Juvenile Court was established only to make

up the deficiencies of the homes of these children, and the problems of the dependent child and of the delinquent child are not so different after all. Frequently the dependent child comes out of an environment so low and forbidding as to justify greater lack of character and moral development than the delinquent child, who has been educated by the officers of the community in a chance violation of the law. The first child may need more of the careful discipline and scrutiny of a reformatory than would the second child, although I believe the reformatory should be the last resort. I have found in dealing with the delinquent children who have come under me that but few of them have to be sent to a training school or reformatory. Last year seven per cent. went to reformatories, and when we come to consider the cases of the girls, I wish to say that we should never send a girl to a reformatory as long as we have Christian women ready to welcome her into their homes, to whisper into her ear that loving name of sister.

Now of the children who come before the Juvenile Court we have various classes. We have the child who is simply suffering from a superabundance of energy, who, if a girl, is bound to grow up to occupy an exalted position among women; or, if a boy, to sit in the White House or upon the Supreme Bench. I recall the case of a little boy who was the happy possessor of a little, hollow, rubber ball; as he went along the street he saw in the gutter some muddy water, and it did not take long to get some of that water into his ball; a few steps further on sat

an old gentleman reading his paper, and the boy let him have the contents of the ball in the back of the neck. Now you may imagine the anger of the old gentleman; he was far more angry with that child—as we usually are with children who annoy us—than if the child had been guilty of some moral delinquency. The child was nabbed and brought into the Court, and after I had listened to the story I gently reminded the old gentleman that in the distant past he himself was a boy full of mischief and unspent energy, and I reminded the boy that he would not like another boy to treat his father in that way. The boy was soon in tears and was sorry for what he had done and was ready to ask the old gentleman's pardon.

Sometimes a boy is brought into Court, as was the case the day before yesterday, because his mother is unhappily not a member of the Mothers' Congress. She has not been taught to think deeply upon the problem of her duty to her boy. On the contrary, she has expected him to develop spontaneously all the virtues without attending to the plant, or giving him any suggestions as to the right way of living; she has spent all the energy that should have been spent in this direction in nagging the boy, which has made him worse than he would have otherwise become. Bad as it is in the case of a boy whose mother nags him and drags him out into the treatment of the street, the case is infinitely worse when it is a girl. A great deal of my time is taken up in saving these girls from their foolish mothers. I would never send such a girl to an institution.

but I would take hold of that mother and make her see her conduct in the proper way, as I did this very day, so that the foolish mother who had brought the girl into Court might not publish that girl's misstep to the entire community. The girl was said to be obstinate and hard-hearted—that no impression could be made upon her. A conference in my office between the girl, the father, the mother and myself resulted in the girl breaking down in tears and begging pardon of her parents.

Many of these children are *unmoral* rather than *immoral*; they do not understand the mysteries of life. Then there are good parents who forget that their children are grown up to be young men and women with the responsibilities of men and women who need their parents to guide them. Just as carefully as the doctor has given us instruction on food values, the parents should give instructions to their children on the mysteries of life so that they may not fall victims to the designing and the evil-minded in the community.

Most of the cases that come into the Juvenile Court are because of stealing. It is very sad to learn of these cases of immorality, but I do not believe that immorality is our national sin. I do believe, however, that dishonesty is our national sin, and we can be dishonest in more ways than one. We are not only dishonest when we take the property of our neighbor, but we are also dishonest when we do not fulfil our duty to our neighbor, and when we live beyond our income and ape those in a different station of life

from ours. A great deal of the misery of families that we have seen paraded in the Juvenile Court arises from the fact that people do carelessly live beyond their income, and this sometimes drives the father of the family to drink. Of course I do not recognize that as an excuse for drink, but a man who desires to drink never lacks an excuse, it is true, but nevertheless there is something to be said in extenuation when the man is working as hard as he can and the money is being spent in trying to ape somebody on the next street who has a larger income. I believe that the proper conception of the Juvenile Court is to regard it as a complement to the juvenile school system. The Juvenile Court is there to right the misfits that come to him out of the public school system, and it must try to show these children lessons that are not shown to them in their homes. When these children come to me I try to see how they would feel if they had been the victims of theft. Sometimes they are so dense that they are not able to give me a ready answer in this respect. I talk to them and try to show them all sides of the question, and ask them if they want the people in this city to point the finger of scorn at their mother, and then if the boy is worth anything at all he will break down. Show me a mother's boy and I will show you a good citizen. And so I ask him to put his arms around the neck of his mother and tell her that never again will he steal, and the awkward way in which some of these boys put their arms around their mother's neck speaks volumes of the lack of sympathy between mother and child.

We are taking too much for granted in our home circles. I think if we were attentive to those of our own household, and were more kindly and courteous from time to time, expressing the love that we feel in our heart, the world would more surely know the disposition of those of our own home, and the world would be all the better for the affection which is thus displayed.

My experience has convinced me of one thing, and that is that the child is only the fraction of the problem. The family is the real unit in the state. You mothers know that if you cannot control your child it is largely the fault of the head of the house, and so these juvenile courts in time will become parental courts, family courts with the power in the tribunal to get at the cause and the root of the delinquency in the home. The children that are properly disciplined in their own homes are not the children who are likely to give trouble to the policemen on the streets. The children out of a good home who are arrested by the policemen are children whom the policeman should never have arrested. The child who is thus brought into the Court has simply been making a playground of the street because the community has not done its duty to the child by furnishing playgrounds. A little fellow was brought into Court, charged with throwing missiles on the street; he was playing ball; it was an old, rag ball. Of course the law was not intended to cover a case of that sort; it was intended to cover the playing of ball on the street so as to frighten passing horses or injure passers-by. That policeman

has seen a violation of the law where there was simply a sort of near-to violation of the law. This leads me to say that children are arrested too frequently in all of our cities throughout the country. I have instructed the clerk of the Juvenile Court when women are concerned to retain the warrants on women or children. If the children do not come when it is time, we would, if the case is of sufficient importance to justify their being brought into Court, have time enough to arrest them. I believe we ought to begin our reforms a little further back of the Court, and see to it that the proper sort of men are appointed on the police force, and we will never get them until we pay an adequate salary and require a high-school educational qualification of those put on the police force. Further than that, I want to say that social conditions in America, where we all are, or should be, interested in one another's welfare, should require every police department throughout the land to have its coterie of female officers to handle the cases of children, and I do not believe that any women arrested by the police should be taken into the police station. I believe that there should be a house of detention for the exclusive use of the females in the community, not for the joint use of females and children. The children should never be mixed with the adults. I believe that every city in the Union should have its proper detention home for juveniles who may happen to fall into the hands of the police, and that these detention homes will never be rightly constructed until each child has a

separate sleeping apartment in each detention home. They should never be put to bed on the general plan, giving the little moral degenerate opportunity to do harm. When we have those magnificent homes of detention, I would not put the children into them. Let these detention homes be places of beauty and efficiency, but let them stand as idle as the monuments throughout the parks.

In the Juvenile Court of the District of Columbia we endeavor to reach the case through the non-support of law. Last year we had 989 fathers charged with non-support of their children. These fathers are dealt with in the same corrective way that we deal with their children. When they are found guilty they are lectured upon their duties to their children; they are reminded that the greatest dishonesty is for a man to fail to support the life that he has brought into the world; that he owes that life, by bringing it into the world, food and clothing, shelter and defence and education, and the principal place wherein education is received by the child; that the school is simply an adjunct to the home; that even the church is simply an aid to the home; that he is the biggest man in the world in the eyes of his children and that he should try to set before them a good example. Most of these cases are in for drunkenness; sometimes it is a double life. We ask them if they love the children or the drink habit more; do they wish these children to go to the work-house and jail, or what would they do to prevent this. When the sentence is imposed it is suspended on condition that they

will cut out the cause of this delinquency, or the other woman, and that they will promise to refrain from the use of liquor for a year. At the end of that time they will find themselves so much better off in pocket and in health that we hope they will not return to this vile habit. They are reminded that if they go to the work-house they will not find this beverage on the bill of fare and that it is far better to do without it on the outside than to be compelled to do without it on the inside, and they take the pledge and often they are required to go, on pay night, in person to the precinct desk sergeant and pay the stipulated sum. They are reminded that the officers of the beat will observe them to know that they are industrious and sober, and kind to their families. These men thus let out on probation have paid in the manner indicated, according to the records since the Court was established five years ago, \$124,927.48. In the same time under the provision of law that fifty cents a day shall be paid for the labor of those who are committed to the workhouse for the care of their children it has cost the community \$6,935, showing what small need there is to send these men to the workhouse if time is taken to investigate the case and see the disposition of the fellow. There is good in every one if you only reach him. I have never seen a case of total depravity yet.

There is provision by law that fifty cents a day be given to the care of the man's family for each day's work done in the institution. That law is a most just law. We have made a great mistake in the

handling of our criminals. In my judgment we have been entirely too lenient with murderers, and we have been entirely too severe with a misdemeanor, and when the poor man has no money wherewith to pay his fine down he goes to the work-house or the jail, which has the effect of depriving his family of the breadwinner, as well as driving the iron of discontent deeper into his own soul. The fine system is a wrong system. I do not know how we can do away with it entirely, but with a broader use of the probation system we can enable these men, when they must be fined, to remain out and pay their fine in as little as twenty-five cents per week and thus spare them for their duty to their family, which is their principal duty to the state. A man who would go to the clerk's office to pay a fine at the rate of twenty-five cents a week, as these men go to the precincts on Saturday night, has his trend of thought set in motion so that, sooner or later, he comes to realize that he should do his duty to his family.

We have applied the same principle to boys who have been brought into the courts for immorality. I have fined some of these boys fifty dollars, to be paid at the rate of a dollar a week, and find it far better discipline than to send them to a reformatory.

All governments that exist to-day exist for the protection of your family and my family, and therefore the work of the government that affects the family should be done intelligently, patiently and kindly so as to conserve the family, and when we conserve the family we conserve the state itself.

Country Flats and City Flats

By MRS. C. H. LANE

OUR cottage is a country flat with rooms on one floor, having a large attic over all.

On the second of April, the baby's first birthday, we went to see the cottage. The carpenters were still at work, but we had a picnic lunch in our dining-room around an open fire.

In June everything was ready, and we began life in our cottage.

How sweet it was, with its fresh matting and dainty white muslin curtains. A wren was building a nest in a tree that almost touched our porch. Her cheery note was an ideal welcome to home-making young people.

Year after year the wrens have built in this same tree until they seem a necessary part of our cottage life. Never before did a summer pass so quickly or so delightfully. Again we moved back to the city, finding it pleasant and interesting. One more move, then we went to the cottage to stay summer and winter.

The Man of Wisdom could not conceal his surprise when I informed him late the following summer that I intended to try a winter in the country.

"I want water and a bath in this cottage," I announced. "And the quickest way to get it is to just stay here."

"But you will get tired of the whole thing," he remonstrated, "and will not want to stay summer or winter. You had better go back to the city."

We did not, however. One by one our open fireplaces were covered with fire boards, and in front of them stoves were placed.

How I clung to the last open fire in the living room. True it was more troublesome than a radiator in a flat, for open fires have a way of burning low just when the cook is making bread or ironing a fine white piece. Rather than wait for logs or run the risk of spoiling good bread and the temper of an excellent cook, I frequently helped to keep the fire bright. It was as exhilarating as swinging Indian clubs to bring in logs from the porch. Involuntarily as I stepped out in the fresh air, I drew in a deep breath, lifted the log and stepped briskly in with it always feeling refreshed by the exercise.

My method of solving the servant and health problem is by doing a portion of the household duties. To overdo, of course, upsets health and servant. Each woman has to decide for herself just how much help she can give in her own home.

I have found it best to keep a girl busy, not rushed, from morning until night, allowing time for "freshing up" before the hour for serving the evening meal. A weekly half holiday, an easy Sunday with the third Sunday off after breakfast has kept a cheerful maid in my home nearly all the time, which is saying a good deal for a suburbanite.

As for the third Sunday off after breakfast; I did not like that at first.

It was a law here among the servants when we came, a law like that of the Medes and Persians. It would have been much harder to resist it than to adapt ourselves to it. By having a dessert and soup stock made the day before, it is now an easy matter to prepare that third Sunday dinner. It seems good for the family to be alone and dependent on each other for one day in the month. Friends knowing the third Sunday law have a way of staying at home on that day. Perhaps they prefer my cook's roasts.

Carrying in logs led to the servant question. Often I carried my own so there was no question. Is it not like entertaining old friends, the pleasure we feel when we sit down before an open fire? A little preparation beforehand, then utter abandonment to thoughts, warmth and cheer.

Our Little Boy Blue loves the open fire too. One day he called to me in ecstasy, "Mother, mother, the flames look as though they are going to carry the logs right up the chimney."

The Man of Wisdom brought home a fascinating set of implements to use about a fireplace and a crane and kettle that comes in handy on Sunday evenings when the cook is away.

Open fires, however, lose their charm in this locality as winter advances unless you have hot water heat as well.

About Christmas our last open fireplace had to be closed.

I should have felt the loss more keenly had it not come at this busy season when one has little time for "Open fire musings."

It was such a cheery coal stove too that took its place in our living room. Large isinglass doors showed the firelight on three sides.

We no longer had freakish dancing flames to delight us. We missed the wild tales and merry chatter of our crackling logs, but the coal stove was not utterly silent. From its advent during Christmas week, all through the winter months, that stove with its warm steady glow seemed to say "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" to us and everyone who stepped into our living room.

On dark evenings when the Man of Wisdom and I returned home either on the late train or from some village event, its cheerful light greeted us before we entered the cottage.

In the bedrooms we used air-tight wood stoves, thinking them more healthful for sleeping apartments; so I still had a chance to step out in the air to swing my logs. I did not lose the opportunity, for had not my chest measure increased, and did I not feel the joy of health growing greater every day?

Our first Christmas at the cottage will long be remembered by all but the wee baby girl. The Man of Wisdom, our Little Boy Blue and I went out in the woods to cut down our Christmas tree. How fresh and delicious the pine trees smelt, and could anything be more beautiful than the moss carpet under our feet with the sun shining on it as it shone that day.

Boy Blue was gayer than the frisky little squirrels we startled on our way. Was it not as good as having Santa Claus and all his reindeer

to have father take a holiday in winter? Santa Claus came, too, that night wrapped in furs and jolly as ever, but somehow while Little Boy Blue's eyes sparkled and his laugh rang out, it was not so contagious as the laugh we heard in the woods.

Surprises greeted me on all sides that winter.

I started out with the idea that staying in the country in the winter means self-sacrifice for the sake of a complete comfortable home.

Never did a winter pass so pleasantly.

I imagined there would be weeks when the children and I would be shut indoors. As a matter of fact, this was the case on an average of less than one day in the week. Nearly every day we went to watch the squirrels in the woods, to feed the old horse, Moses, and to throw sticks and stones in the brook.

I imagined dull days would come when the trees without their leaves and the wind howling around the house would perhaps drive me back to the city. Once I visited my grandfather in the winter when I felt a dreadful loneliness.

I have since come to the conclusion that it must have been because I had left the country gay and green the summer before and had not seen the gradual changes of nature. Perhaps it was because I had not found my heartsease in the Man of Wisdom. Certain it is that winter came only to call forth my deepest admiration.

One morning even the ugly old broom sage took on a beauty that seemed fairy-like. Every stalk was

covered with the daintiest frost flowers imaginable.

How delighted the children were when they found an ice-roof on the brook. The first winter it was a very plain one, but the year following I think the Winter Queen must have tried to show what she could do in the architectural line.

When a small child at school a poem was read about the way of streams in winter. I enjoyed it as a fairy tale. I thought it was only a poet's dream until I saw one morning, with my children, exactly what had been described. The stream was only partly covered with ice. We could see in places a double roof, one transparent, through which moving water was visible, the other not reaching out so far, had fern-shaped edges, with delicate tracings on its surface. The winter passed quickly enough without leaving the memory of one dull day.

Boy Blue and I coasted, made snow men and snow balls.

We fed the birds and were surprised to find that the same blue birds stayed all winter, and that when the ground was all covered with snow a gorgeous crested bird as bright as a red tulip came for his share of crumbs.

We looked him up when we went to our village library and decided that he must be the Cardinal Bird.

It is fun finding out things with Boy Blue.

Did you ever think how much easier it is for a country boy to understand how it is we have day and night.

(To be continued.)

Child-Study Department

ELIZABETH HARRISON

THE KINDERGARTEN

ARTICLE NO. I

THERE is at the present moment such a misconception of what the kindergarten really is, owing no doubt to some of the poor work that has been done in the name of the kindergarten, that it seems best to begin my connection with the National Congress of Mothers by explaining the fundamental thought which underlies the "New Education" of which the kindergarten is the first and, so far, the best illustration. Later I will give suggestions and examples of how this same conception of a child's needs and how to meet them can be carried out in the home life.

The word kindergarten (a garden of children) implies that there shall be natural wholesome growth, no overstimulation on the one hand, and no running to waste on the other hand, with weeds absorbing the nourishment which should have gone to the garden plants.

The very term garden suggests three important things; first a trained or experienced gardener; second, the right kind of a place as to sunshine, air and soil; and third, a gardener who loves his plants and has a sympathetic understanding of the condition of any one plant that may need attention at any particular time. This last implies the understanding of the nature of each kind of plant.

Everyone will admit that these three things are necessary for successful gardening. This is why the name *kindergarten* has survived and clung to the work notwithstanding its transportation into a dozen different languages.

I am quite sure that any earnest mother who may care to know what a really good kindergarten can do for her children will bear with me while I enlarge somewhat on these three things in their transferred meaning.

We would feel it unreasonable to expect satisfactory results if we placed our garden in charge of a person who was entirely ignorant of horticulture. What would be a nearer analogy, perhaps, would be the folly of placing our children under the care of an untrained physician. When any abnormal symptom begins to manifest itself, if we are wise, we turn to the most skilled physician within our reach. More than this, we hold consultations with him or her as to how we can best co-operate with the scientific knowledge thus called in.

We know of course that there lies dormant within each of us a whole world of inherited instincts which never become active unless stimulated by some outside influence. It is because of ignorance of this fact that the trained thinker

may seem, to the unthinking person, to magnify the mischief done by ignorant servants. Let me illustrate. I was in a prominent physician's office not long ago and among the patients waiting for consultation was a smartly dressed nursery-maid with two little girls, one apparently about six years of age and the other four years old. She was showing them the colored plates of a fashion magazine with the following commentary on the same: "Look at this lady's lovely sash! Ain't it *stylish*! When Miss Edith grows up she will have just such a *fine* sash and all the fellows will be following her on the street." Little Miss Edith blushed and twisted about in self-conscious complacency as the ideal of her future womanhood was being planted within her. Then the younger child asked, "Won't I wear a fine sash too?" The nursery-maid replied, "Yes, you will be dressed up *fine* too, with ribbons and laces, and all the men will make love to you. . Come here and let me fix that bow on your hair. My, ain't you fine! Ain't she pretty, Miss Edith?" This last appeal was made to the older child while the younger one smirked and turned her eyes toward the other people in the room to see if they were admiring her sufficiently. I stood this profanation of childhood as long as I could, then moving to a chair near the group I said nonchalantly, "Don't you think the little girls would like to look at these animal pictures? Some of them are very funny." "No, Madam," she answered, "they don't care about nothing but clothes. I never did see young ones who liked *fine* clothes as

much as these children do. They like to look *stylish*. Hold still, Miss Edith, while I straighten down your dress. It's all mussed up. How will you look when we go out on the street and people are staring at you!" And thus the deterioration of wholesome normal growth goes on, and an interest in the great outside world that is so helpful to the child is barred out, and in its place are put shallow and artificial interest such as ought never to enter a child's mind.

This scene I have just sketched is not an unusual one. You need but to saunter any pleasant day past the average nursery-maid with her young charge to hear just such silly talk. And by and by we wonder why our children do not care more for things that are worth while, not realizing that the golden days of childhood have been wasted because of untrained guidance and companionship.

Again let me give an illustration of how the tyranny of a coarse nursery-maid can develop cowardice in a child. I tell this simply as another form of injury to children which comes from the careless or ignorant gardening of the tender human plants. I was out for a walk one morning with a group of children, when one little fellow was suddenly taken with cramping pains. I put the rest of the children in charge of my assistant and hurried with the child to the nearest house and asked if I might take him to the toilet room. As his pain increased I reached forward to try to assist him by pressing my hand on his abdomen. He instinctively threw up his arm as if to defend his head

from a blow and cried out in a beseeching tone, "Don't hit me! Please don't! I can't help it!" We found on investigation that the child had constipated bowels and that this had irritated his nurse to the extent of causing her to slap him on the head to make him "hurry up." And yet his mother knew nothing of this treatment and had thought the maid was exemplary because she was so neat. Again I claim that this is not an extreme case, as I have too often seen children shaken and slapped by ill-tempered nursery-maids when they thought they were unobserved. Have you ever taken the trouble to find out what motive your hired help used governing your children?

But there are more serious results arising from this custom of engaging ignorant help for the care of children. I have heard women physicians state and trained nurses confirm the statement, that much of the self-abuse to which many children, even of the better class, are addicted, arises from the habit of ignorant nursery-maids fondling the genital organs of children by way of soothing them to sleep. Have you ever questioned your nursery-maid on this question?

I could tell you some sad, sad stories which have been brought to me by mothers, concerning the too early awakening of the sexual instinct. Many of these cases could be traced to wrong treatment in early childhood. I do not mean to magnify this evil either; but we are in the midst of a great awakening on this subject and yet little has been said or written about the right nursery treatment of the sex question.

I am not now implying that there are no clean-minded, kindhearted young girls who are willing to take the position of nursery-maids in the homes where they are treated with kindness and consideration, and who take a motherly interest in their young charges. Yet even these miss many of the greatest opportunities which come in childhood days to give right impressions and to call forth affection for and interest in the right things.

I know one family where the care of three healthy, wholesome children is intrusted for the greater part of the day to a sweet-tempered, well-meaning and conscientious young nursery-maid of much more than the average intelligence. Through the long summer days of last year they played most of the time in a sand pile under the protecting shade of a stately elm. Day after day their play consisted of digging in the sand, or of piling it up into heaps, or of making impressions in it with some tin tart pans, while the nurse sat on a nearby bench quietly crocheting, occasionally admonishing her young charges if a clash of wills arose.

For weeks this routine went on. Apparently the children were having all they needed. The sunshine, fresh air, and easily yielding sand kept them contented. However, one day they had a visit from a cousin who had had a kindergarten training, and consequently knew the wealth of opportunity which lay in a sand-pile for self-expression on the part of the children. She told them a story and then suggested that they should reproduce it in the sand. It needed only a little help from her to show them how the sand

could be made into a hill with a road winding up it to a house on the top of the hill, how even a fence and trees could be represented by some careful broad pinching of the damp sand. The children were delighted with this new use of their sand pile, and were soon busy carrying out every detail of the story in the sand, occasionally creating new details. Even the hole scooped out by the little three-year-old in the side of the hill became a cave in which the children in the story sometimes played. Thus the hitherto dumb, lifeless sand-pile had become a lively and most helpful playmate and gave a wholesome outlet to childish imagination, deepening impressions made by stories and songs and personal experiences, helping the children materially in self-expression yet remaining simple happy play.

I could give many similar incidents of how even a little technical training on the part of the companion of children can enrich and vary their lives without in the least

disturbing their serene and normal growth. I have related this seemingly trivial incident to show how much more inner power children can develop, without in the least disturbing their outer growth, if they have some guidance in their play. In fact the physical development goes on better if the mind is happily employed with a reasonable variety of mental images and some thinking.

Much more could be said concerning the added value of having a well trained kindergartner in charge of children's morning hours. And there is scarcely a town of three thousand inhabitants where one might not be employed if the earnest women of the place would co-operate in the matter.

In my next article I will speak of the garden rather than the gardener and of some of the ways in which sunlight and fresh air can be brought to the inner life of a child as well as to his body. For it is the right development of this inner life which is the chief aim of the kindergarten.

Politeness in China

IN China parents are held responsible for the manners of their children; accordingly, for the credit of their parents, people try to be polite. If you are mobbed in a Chinese town you should look straight at one or two of the people and say, "Your parents did not pay much attention to your manners; they did not teach you the rules of propriety." This remark will make the crowd slink away, one by one, ashamed of themselves.

Few people will deny that the

manners of the Chinese to their parents and to old people generally are better than ours, though we may think some of the examples of filial piety that are held up in Chinese books for emulation go to an absurd length. One example is that of a certain Lae. This worthy, when seventy years of age, fearing that his years might distress his parents by reminding them of their greater age, used to dress as an infant and play about the room.

Message from Cardinal Gibbons to Second International Congress on Child Welfare

THE home is the primeval school. It is the best, the most hallowed, and the most potential of all academies; and the parent, especially the mother, is the first, the most influential, and the most cherished of all teachers.

For various reasons, mothers should be the first instructors of their children:

1. As nature ordains that mothers should be the first to feed their offspring with corporal nourishment, of their own substance, so the God of nature ordains that mothers should be the first to impart to their little ones "the rational, guileless milk" of heavenly knowledge "whereby they may grow into salvation." (1st Peter II, 1.)

2. The children that are fed by their own mothers are usually more healthy and robust than those that are nourished by wet nurses. In like manner, the children that are instructed by their own mothers in the elements of Christian knowledge are commonly more sturdy in faith, and are more responsive to the call of moral duty than those who are committed for instruction to strangers.

3. The progress of a pupil in knowledge is in a great measure proportioned to the confidence he has in his preceptor. Now, in whom does a child place so much belief as in his mother? She is his oracle and prophet. She is his guide, philosopher and friend. He never doubts what his mother tells him. The lesson he received acquires additional force because it proceeds from one to whom he has given his first love, and whose image, in after life, is indelibly stamped on his heart or memory.

Mothers, do not lose the golden opportunity you have of training your children in point of morals, while their hearts are open to drink in your every word.

4. You share the same home with your children. You frequently occupy the same apartment. You eat at the same table with them. They are habitually before your eyes. You are, therefore, the best fitted to instruct them, and you can avail yourself of every little incident that presents itself, and draw from it some appropriate moral reflection.

A Study of Children in Juvenile Courts

A LITTLE boy eleven years old stood before the bar of a Children's Court in a large city.

The Judge was a learned lawyer, past middle age, but unmarried and long past any remembrance of his own boyhood.

Frightened and trembling the childish culprit stood looking at the Judge in his black gown seated far above him in the august chair provided for the judiciary.

The District Attorney called the case—John McGinnis, *larceny*.

Before the case was presented, the Judge looked at the boy and said, "You were born a thief; you've always been a thief; you always will be a thief."

Then with sarcastic prompting by the Judge the child's story was told.

Tears came to the eyes of some of the witnesses who knew the psychological effect of such an experience on a child.

The words of a greater Judge seemed to ring in their ears—"Judge not that ye be not judged."

No effort to find whether the child really had been taking things not his own. No effort to learn what the temptation had been! No encouragement or lesson as to the rights of others, but the terrible prophecy: "You will always be a thief." It is a fact well understood by those who know children, that boys live up to what is expected of them. We all know the proverb, "Give a dog a bad name." So it is with the boy. Expect good of him, and he will give it. Will he never fail? Surely he will. Character isn't built in a day.

Love, patience, sympathy, encouragement, and a clear statement of what real manhood is, is what every little erring child needs.

A mother brought a child of eight into Court to ask that he might be sent to a reform school as he ran away all the time.

After the mother had stated that she worked all day, that there was no one in the home to look after the boy, it did not seem strange that he should seek his pleasures elsewhere.

The Judge remonstrated with the mother against bringing a child of

eight into Court, telling her it was the parents' duty to take care of such children, and that too many seemed to consider it the duty of the Court.

This was all very true, but when he finally said, "You should whip your boy every morning; then he would not run away"—the mother said, "I do whip him all the time. It does no good."

The onlooker wondered whether child nature and man nature were so utterly different. She wondered whether whipping was such an attraction that it would give the child that love of home he should have.

A lonely house, whippings and harsh words, because he preferred the companionship of children and sought them outside seemed a sufficient reason to lead the child away from home.

What should the Judge do in such a case, for there are thousands of them?

The first thing to do would be to get the child's point of view, to put one's self in his place, and try to realize why he ran away. If one did that it would not be difficult to realize that one could expect nothing else under the circumstances.

Children as well as grown people are apt to stay where it is pleasant.

No one can claim that a solitary home all day and a daily morning whipping would make any one love home.

What could the Judge do in such a case?

It would seem wise to show the mother that if she must be away all day she should make an arrangement with some neighbor to look after the boy.

It would seem wise to point out her duty to the child, and urge her to get work that could be done at home.

It would seem wise to show her that she must let the boy feel her love, and that his pleasure and happiness could be considered even though she must work all day.

One cannot drive a boy. By love

and kindness he can be led always. To judge wisely one must put himself in the child's place and get his viewpoint.

"Unless ye become as a little child ye cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven." Unless ye become as a little child ye cannot deal fairly with the little ones.

Juvenile Courts in France

THE first International Congress of Children's Courts was held in Paris in June.

This was of especial interest as France has just adopted the juvenile court and probation system. The Senate in making the laws disapproved of a single judge. Under their law the childish offender is withdrawn from repressive and punitive jurisdiction and submitted to educational care and surveillance.

These measures are decided by the Chamber of Council composed of a board of judges who meet in a room adjoining that where the children have their hearing.

This council chamber already had the right to take away paternal power under certain conditions and examined the question concerning the care of illegitimate children. All

hearings must be private. The recognition of woman's place in this work has been given and the children under thirteen who come before the Court will be dealt with by women probation officers.

The Senate appointed Madam Verone who gives her heart and life incessantly to the service of the children brought into court. She knows them, their families and all about them. The Judge consults her constantly. The French press, in commenting on this, says: "The judicial edifice will not tremble on its foundation because of this. It needs repair. It is not a new territory for woman. It is just and sensible. It matters little whether the child in trouble be saved by a man or woman. The essential thing is that he be saved."

Child's Play

IN all child's play there should be room for the imagination and a stimulus to its activity.

A child should both play alone and in the association of others.

Companionship on the part of the parent and others guiding the child is of great value, but care must be taken not to over-regulate his

play lest its spontaneity be lost. The child must keep his initiative and the adult should be comrade, not master.

By selecting and guiding the child's play in harmony with those principles we can utilize it as a powerful force for moral education. Perhaps the most important moral result, however, is the learning of the

art of joy. With all our failure in the art of work, we understand that form of action so much better than we do the art of joy.

Only as this is done for all children can we hope to make play contribute the great aid it may furnish for moral education.

New Books

LE LIVRE DES MÈRES. (The Mother's Book), one volume of 352 pages by Mme. Adolphe Hoffman. Chef Fischbacher, 33 rue de Seine, Paris.

"L'Education Familiale" publishes the following extracts from this book, which have so beautiful a message that we translate them for American mothers:

"God has given me six noisy boys to punish me for my sins," a mother exclaimed one day. The children heard her—Poor mother, if your sons are not the crown, the joy of your existence, whose fault is it?

There are often mothers who ask: "What can I do to gain the confidence of my child?" The question is badly put. It is difficult to regain the confidence of a child, the day that one sees it is lacking. It was not necessary to lose this precious treasure. When the child was seven or eight years old, full of life, he filled your ears with stories of his exploits at school.

Did you show any sympathy? Were you interested in his words? Did you encourage him to tell everything? Did you find leisure to listen without a sign of impatience, and with a smile of sympathy and comradeship?

Or have you rebuffed him? Very little things check this frankness of

the children. It needs tender care to continue. Alas! perhaps it was then discouraged. But then, at this faraway time, he had all confidence in you.

THE WHY OF OUR LITTLE CHILDREN.

"Mamma, why?" is one of the phrases dinned continually in our ears. In fact, our little children approach us so often with the "why" that we end by losing patience and reply often tartly "Because! Be still."

A surprised look in the questioning eyes and then he turns away. He resumes his play. His curiosity seems to be forgotten by our refusal to satisfy it.

Are you very sure that this is true? Is it effaced, leaving a mark of the little disappointment that your impatience has inflicted? Will the child return to you to-morrow; next week, in several years, and with the same trust and certainty that you possess infallible solutions of all his problems and all his questions?

They are not always easy to answer these strange "whys" of children utterly different. Why is it one can laugh or cry? Why do animals fight sometimes? Why do mothers die? Why do we love a

blind dog better than one which can see?

"For pity's sake be still, I beg. You tire me. I don't know why."

Baby is still at last.

Next year he asks fewer questions, the following year fewer still. At first you are pleased. "He is improving; my nerves are resting," you say. That was the time that that confidence ceased.

Years pass ever more rapidly—your son is no longer a little boy. He is a school-boy and collegian.

Why does he no longer ask questions? "He asks no more. He knows the repulse to all. Where does he

go for enlightenment? Does he possess the true solution of the great problem of life which every human being is to keep holy in order to live and die as he should? Certainly the troubling questions should still exist for him. He has not passed the breakers of youth. His bark is far from having reached the more quiet waters of our age."

REGENERATION. Rider Haggard.

An interesting story of the work of the Salvation Army.

TWICE BORN MEN. Harold Begbie.

The Housing Committee

THE Housing Committee was recently formed by the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Congress of Mothers.

"The Housing Committee of the Massachusetts Congress of Mothers is formed with the idea of helping to solve the question of homes for people with children, and especially for those with large families. To do this the committee hopes to banish prejudice at the fountain-head by using its influence with mothers and children in regard to conserving the

property rights of others, and by influencing the landlords to build and rent houses for families with children."

The reason for this action is the well-known difficulty of finding a house to rent when there are children in the family. The committee already has one widow with eight children under its protection, and is especially befriended by Colonel Roosevelt, who has sent fifty dollars to help establish the work.

CLARA CAHILL PARK, Chairman.

A Letter from Cody, Wyoming

Our Mothers' Club has twelve members, all farmers' wives. Each member must give in some subject that she wants discussed. It brings us together a great deal more. We meet twice a month and we have a fine time at all of our meetings. Members who have left always say they miss the Mothers' Club so much. All meetings are reported to the newspaper. Our club has been organized two years and is for social betterment as well as to keep up and in constant touch with our children and all that concerns them. We have every reason to be proud of our little club. Before we organized there was more

or less gossip and quarrelling among a few in the close neighborhood, but now every one is busy hunting up new material for each subject on our programme.

Most of the members are Scandinavians and are well-read in their own tongue, but are sensitive about making mistakes in English. Americans who make fun of the foreign-born people do not stop to consider how much it would hurt them if they were in a foreign country. I have the mother's club to thank for making me a better mother to the two best step-children in the world. They are all I have but they are worth every effort I can make for them.

Editorial Comment on the Congress of Mothers

THE MOTHERS' CONGRESS.

(The North American.)

THE International Congress of Mothers has just closed a session of a week's duration in Washington. It is officially designated as the International Congress on Child Welfare. But there can be no quarrel as to which is the more appropriate name. They are interchangeable. Any meeting of mothers is necessarily in the interest of the child.

The movement is the outgrowth of the Mothers' Congress, which, if it didn't derive its origin in Philadelphia, found here its most effective promoters. Here, too, it did its first notable work in the interest of delinquent children and started the world-wide campaign to keep children out of the courts and away from the influence of penal institutions.

Those who have watched the growth of this noble work can readily recall how, in its beginnings, it was thought by the vacuous and narrow minded to be a legitimate butt of silly jocularities. But the good women who had given form to the movement were too intent on their purpose of raising the social standard of the child to give heed to the flippancy launched against them.

Their works have silenced the criticism of the social Tories who find offence in every organized effort for better things. The deep and earnest study that is being given in every city to the welfare of the child owes

much of its inspiration to the Mother's Congress.

From a meeting representing the intelligent motherhood of the country will eventually come the answer to a question that is now giving much concern to students of national dangers. The question is that of the declining birth rate, wilful sterility in marriage, or, as it has been significantly described by Theodore Roosevelt, race suicide.

The reply to the demand for more children that fewer and better children are the need of the country is met by the lamentable fact that experience does not show that fewer children assure better ones. Indeed, the children of the class that are most open to the charge of promoting race suicide are not usually the kind that encourage faith in the future of the nation.

On the other hand, it is undeniable that economic conditions, growing out of modern industrial developments, make the problem of large families a much more serious one now than ever before for the masses of the people.

The socialistic suggestion for institutional care of all children has never been seriously entertained by any representative portion of our public. But in the Congress of Mothers this year there was another suggestion that may have an important bearing on the question. It was that the state should take care of fatherless children in their own homes or in other homes, rather than

in institutions; that a woman who has done the state the service of bearing children for it should receive an honorable pension if she is left a widow.

From this idea it is not a very long step to the one which would put a premium on motherhood. Colonel Roosevelt, himself an ardent admirer of the soldier, says that no one, not even the warrior killed in battle, can be regarded as so great a benefactor to his country as is the mother who does her duty by contributing children to the nation.

Some time the state itself will take this view. It may be generations hence, and it may be in the near future. The decline in the birth rate may force the time when the state will give honorable recognition to motherhood. It is inevitable that the day will come when the supreme service of the mothers of the nation will be publicly honored, when the strongest claim that a woman can make to social distinction will be the

number of healthy children she has contributed to its citizenship.

When that time comes every mother will have the pledge of the state that her reward for bearing children shall not be a struggle against poverty, but that every child she brings into the world will have a guarantee against want until it has arrived at an age when it can earn its own living.

And this guarantee will not be for subsistence grudgingly given in an almshouse or orphan asylum, not the dole of pauperism, but the honorable payment that the state will give to the mother for her work, enabling her to bring up her children at her own knee, to rock them in her own low chair, as Doctor Tomkins says, and sing to them her own love songs.

Such a public policy would be the surest guarantee for the preservation of the home as the foundation of society against any theories of collectivism growing out of impatience with the economic struggle.

SOME OF OUR PRESS FRIENDS

"Why not be an Organized Mother?" the *Ladies' Home Journal* asked, and then told of the National Congress of Mothers and its help to mothers and children—that little notice of the Congress brought replies from many.

The *Farm Journal* said: "Every parent should have the pamphlet published by the Congress on 'Parents' Duty to Children concerning Sex,' price 10 cents. Hundreds of mothers sent for it."

Life and Health in an editorial comments on the recent Congress as follows:

"THE MOVEMENT BY MOTHERS.

"In accordance with one's viewpoint man is becoming progressively worse or progressively better. According to some there was never an age in which there was so much corruption, so much demoralization, so much misery, so much disregard of human rights as now. Never was divorce more common, vice more open, the strong

more grasping and utterly heartless, the poor more helpless and vindictive. But if that is a true picture it represents only one side of the shield.

"Never were there so many unselfish activities operating in the world. Never before have nations felt called to relieve the distress and famine of nations on opposite sides of the earth. Never before have those of large means given so liberally for movements of general uplift. Never before has there been such an attempt to make of the masses of the people free men and women. Never before have there been so many organizations for the betterment of humanity.

"But there is one society before which we may well stand and lift our hats. Perhaps there are few who, if asked what has been the highest uplifting influence in his life would not say 'mother.' About fourteen years ago some mothers realized that there are children who do not have the advantage of good mothers; some have no

mothers, others have mothers who do not know what to do for their children; still others are hard pressed financially and cannot do.

"As a result of this realization, the Congress of Mothers was organized, and for fourteen years it has worked earnestly for the welfare of the child. It is the principle actuating this congress that every child has a right to health, a good home, a good education, and an inspiration in right ideals.

"By persistent education and agitation, and by securing adequate legislation and efficient administration of laws, this society has accomplished much good for the child, and yet it realizes that its work is just begun."

PERSIA.

In a recent issue of a Persian paper printed in Cairo, Egypt, the editor has a long notice praising Madam Ali-Kuli Khan for her speeches at the Mothers' Congress and the reception given to the delegates by

Mme. Khan at the Persian Legation. A Persian writes: "These articles are of great interest to Persians in Persia and to the Government. Persia is so friendly toward America it rejoices them to think any hospitality has been offered to the Mothers' Congress, an organization now well introduced to Cairo and Persia."

L' Education Familiale, published in Belgium, gives an account of the International Congress on Child Welfare. We quote:

"Belgium and the League of Home Education were represented there by M. P. Hagemans, Consul-General at Philadelphia. We intend in a later number of the magazine to give a full account of this Congress which was a great success. We thank M. le consul-general Hagemans for having expressed on behalf of our country and the Home Education League our gratitude to the Americans for their brilliant participation in the Congress at Brussels in 1910"

Moving Pictures in Schools

A Mothers' Club in Alameda, Cal., has purchased a moving picture outfit and presented it to the school authorities for use in teaching geography and history, and also in giving the children a better acquaintance with matters of present day life in distant places.

Discovery of the value of the motion picture as an educational agent is by no means new, but the California women appear to have discovered a practical method of utilization that is likely to be imitated. Many of the lessons of the ordinary curriculum could be more effectively impressed on the youthful mind by the aid of pictures. Geography and history might be given a new charm. Physiology and hygiene might be more effectively taught.

The knowledge of the world which is acquired by the education of travel might be made available for many who would not have opportunity for personal observation.

The educational value of the moving picture has not been disregarded even by interests operating from the commercial point of view of attracting paying patrons. Instructive films are quite as desirable as those which merely amuse. The picture machine has been utilized in the propaganda of health and sanitation and by states in their crusade against moths and other pests. It is not impossible that this instruction through the eyegate may yet become a recognized factor in public school systems.

Reports of Departments

REPORT OF PLAYGROUND DEPARTMENT

THE Playground Department, organized two years ago when the Mothers' Congress met in New Orleans, wishes to submit the following report.

The various state organizations have been able to do excellent work this year. It is amazing how much progress there has been and how many different interests have co-operated to establish playgrounds. The idea of equipped playgrounds with supervised play has taken hold of the people over the whole country.

Where other organized forces had already been at work, the Congress of Mothers held out a helping hand; where the movement had not already taken hold, our organization took the initiative. The Playground Association of America, to whom we owe so much already, has done a great deal this year in sending out men who understand the work thoroughly to speak upon this important subject, and also in the great amount of helpful literature it has distributed. It is noticeable in the reports received from the various states a few weeks ago that those states in which the Mothers' Congress is well established and organized are foremost in the playground movement.

Our system of education is soon to undergo a change. Play is to have an important part in our curriculum. Gradually but surely the bringing up of the child, and the child's welfare, have become the most important subject to foremost educators. Organized play is one of the first steps; open air schools is another step forward; shorter school hours is still another. Can you not see, then, how important are school playgrounds and social centres?

Generally speaking, the number of playgrounds now being maintained in over three hundred and fifty American cities is about 2,000, at which nearly 4,000 people are employed and on which over one million dollars have been spent during the last year. These figures do not begin to cover the entire expenditure, for many playgrounds are being established in parks and by school boards, the maintenance of which is charged either to parks or other departments of city governments.

We feel that this work is one that we can help to push. When well started, we can watch the movement and let our various branches of government carry it on, for it is the well-organized playground we need after all, and we demand that super-

vised play be a part of every child's education.

If the president of every state congress would appoint some person to agitate this movement, and instruct her to supply literature to state circles (which literature the Playground Association of America will gladly supply on request), you will be surprised how much the movement will grow.

Early in April letters were sent to thirty-two state presidents and organizers asking what work had been done in these different states. It was learned that much progress had been made in some states and in only two or three nothing had been accomplished. In some states the work had been carried on unaided by park boards, school boards, etc. Several states were fortunate in having splendid playgrounds, which are being made more perfect each year, and in others it was found that the Women's Federated Clubs had done good work.

In New Jersey the playground work is being done through the school system, and much good is being accomplished.

In Pennsylvania the work is extensively carried on by the civic committees and public playground committees.

Delaware reports a good playground committee, with some equipped playgrounds and an effort to raise money for the work.

Maine is making an effort in a quiet way to effect an organization.

New York reports that there are one or more playgrounds in every city of the state, and in most instances under the supervision of Mother's Clubs.

Massachusetts has not been organized a year, but is showing much interest, which has a strong foothold in the state.

In Baltimore the Guild of Play was started last summer and thirty-seven playgrounds will be opened this year. The work was started with light equipment and the "play spirit" of a trained leader at six street centres last summer. This was followed by twenty indoor and outdoor winter stations. This was reported for Maryland.

From New Haven it was reported that the Mother's Congress has no committee, but the Civic Federation is active in the work and the funds are furnished by the city.

New Hampshire reports that there has been nothing done save talk.

In Virginia the statement is that no playground legislation has been had and that they are feeling exceedingly behind-hand in many of the advanced movements.

North Carolina has no Mothers' Congress, but a playground association belonging to the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

In Alabama the Congress has just been organized. Some cities have playground associations, which are urging the city councils to buy ground for playgrounds, which they hope to equip soon.

From Georgia the report is that the Savannah kindergarten association has done good work, but no public playgrounds as yet have been established. The yearly Free Kindergarten Play Festivals are the nearest approach to the public play movement.

In Tennessee the need of playgrounds is not so much felt as there are no overcrowded cities to speak of, yet they are interested and ask for inspiration.

In Ohio most cities are provided with well-equipped playgrounds, so the work has not been taken up by the Congress.

Wisconsin, but lately organized, has not yet made much progress in the playground work.

A great deal has been done in Missouri, especially in St. Louis, Kansas City, and St. Joe. A recreation committee has recently been created by the Mayor of Kansas City. There is an awakening in the work throughout the state of Missouri and also in Kansas.

Texas reports progress, literature is distributed, sentiment created, and the people are being educated to the necessity of organized and supervised play.

Utah has a playground association whose work has been very successful. Though young, the movement is getting a strong hold on the people.

California has done splendid work. They have a committee connected with the State Congress, one which has co-operated with many other organizations.

In North Dakota the playground work is being done by the Federation of Women's Clubs and the school officers. The report states that "the movement is following the safe and sane course of a work by the people at large."

Arizona had nothing to report.

Idaho sends word that the Mothers' Circles are working with committees of federated clubs and are hoping for strong force to push the work next year.

Oregon has a good playground committee, which has been making special efforts to create public sentiment and preparing a foundation for the work. Many organizations stand ready to lend aid. School playgrounds are to be established. They have several well equipped playgrounds under the supervision of the Park Board.

Colorado's work in playgrounds has been done mostly in Pueblo and Denver. Dr. Curtis of the National Playground Association awakened the people to further action. The Park Board and the Playground Association of Denver, the latter a child of the Mothers' Congress, have received the co-operation of the School Board and much is expected from their united efforts.

We have endeavored this year to tell a little of what the different states are doing, hoping the work of one might prove an incentive to others.

While the playground idea has taken firm hold in the public mind, the work of those interested in the movement has just begun. Indeed, a start is being made which will revolutionize all educational methods. It is being realized that school hours are much too long; and that in the play field lessons can be taught of as great if not greater value, than in the school room. Experience has shown that for younger children, school hours may be cut in half, and yet more be accomplished. Even in the high schools there should be less time in the school building and more in the school yard. Modern civilization demands that greater attention be given by educators to the development of the body, and of the morals and of the character of the school children; and this can best be done through the playgrounds. It is our belief that the playground system is just as important as the school system, not one to the exclusion of the other, but each occupying half the time of the child, supported equally by public money and given equal thought and attention.

EMMA LEEB DOWNING,

National Chairman of the Playground
Department of the Mothers' Congress.

REPORT OF COUNTRY LIFE DEPARTMENT FOR RURAL CHILD WELFARE

MRS. FRANK DE GARMO

Good Roads the Basic Element in Rural Child Welfare:

1. Commercially.
2. Educationally.
3. Morally and spiritually.
4. Socially.
5. Hygienic.
6. Scenic—Esthetic bromides by government.
7. Amusements.

a. Plan of Development:

Publicity, education, demonstration, legislation.

b. Publicity.

Press,—both secular and religious.

State Fairs: Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and others.

COUNTRY FAIRS—LOUISIANA

Lectures.—The Chairman has been invited to lecture before the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America, at St. Louis, and The American Road Builders' Association at Indianapolis, the State Highway Association of Missouri, at Cape Girardeau, and has been appointed a delegate to the United State Congress of Road Builders at Birmingham.

The American League of Highway Engineers passed unanimously the resolution submitted at its last annual meeting, endorsing the lecture and educational plans of the Chairman of this Department of the National Congress of Mothers. Also each member of the League accepted membership on the council for said Committee.

The Chairman has spoken at three of the States Normal Schools of Missouri, before the student body, also at the Country Church Conservation Congress at Decatur, Illinois.

Also at the County Seat of Stoddard Co., Mo., where a cross-country highway has been located, and several good roads for child-welfare mothers' clubs have been formed.

Further, in the Tenth Congressional District of Missouri the chairman has aided in organizing Mothers' Good Roads from home to school club, Fathers' Co-operative Road Organization, Pick and Shovel Clubs for Girls, and Road Cadets for Boys.

The Chairman, with several capable Missouri women as members of her committee, visited several cities in Missouri, and lectured before enthusiastic audiences of men and women on the benefits of good, improved roads between home and school, home and church, and home and a rural amusement or social centre.

Ninety-eight County Superintendents of Missouri have requested a woman lecturer on Good Roads, and 5,000 copies each of the leaflets on Road Cadets, for the "Worked Out" of the farm, Pick and Shovel Clubs for his sunbonnetted sister, and constitutions for good roads organizations by parents and teachers have been printed and distributed to the various State Presidents and other citizens of the states.

A Road Primer, especially adapted to the needs of the children of rural communities, has been compiled by Samuel W. Ronnel of Missouri, at the request of the Chairman of the Good Roads Department. This primer is in the hands of the publisher, and already thousands of copies have been ordered by agricultural colleges, normal schools and individuals.

Endorsements of the plan for teaching the country youth the value of roads to the children and homes of the nation, as well as the elementary principles of road administration and construction have been received from governors, senators, representatives, mayors, educators, farmers, ministers, and, in fact, from people representing every field of thought or endeavor.

A bill has been sent to every State Legislature in session in 1910-1911, making "The teaching of the value of elementary principles of road making, a part of the rural school curriculum."

The comparison between the roads of foreign lands, especially France and England, and the appalling cost of bad roads, are made a part of the course of instruction. It is evident that such teaching and training of the child, the future citizen, will develop a public spirit in our rural communities, that will not tolerate the deplorable conditions that exist to-day in practically every state in the Union.

The office of Public Roads, Washington, D. C., has co-operated actively with the Congress Department for three years, at one time sending lecturers on Mothers' Congress Day, at another time furnishing a stereopticon and studies for a capable woman to use in her lectures at villages and country schools.

These lectures have been delivered at Normal Schools and farmers' meetings, and have awakened public opinion to the knowledge that the social value of roads must be recognized before the country people will tax themselves for their construction. This does not lessen their economic value. 10,000 "appeals" for an affirmative on an amendment to the Missouri Road Law for a permanent road

fund, were sent out by the committee and 5,000 circular letters followed, giving the opinions of eminent road advocates as to the value of moulding public opinion by lectures, demonstration and educational road propaganda.

Letters have been written to the various state superintendents, gathering statistics as to the conditions and terms of country schools, sanitation, architecture, accessibility, deserted schools, and lack of attendance and incompetent teachers, caused by bad roads from homes to schools in various states.

Not all of the states have replied, as the request for the information came recently from the Board. But the general opinion was unsatisfactory text books, sanitation, housing, roads and teachers were uniformly bad in most states, although no very definite data could be given. A report on the country church conditions and their bearing on the welfare of the child, was given with very definite statistics, a small part of which I will read to show the deprivations for spiritual growth that confront the country child.

For two months a series of articles touching upon the value of roads to the home, school, church, and society by men and women specialists in these lines, has been published weekly in more than two hundred papers in the State of Missouri alone.

The Highway Department of the State of Missouri has arranged for lectures by capable women with stereopticon in various parts of the State of Missouri, and one of the greatest road experts, as well as sincere friends of the rural child welfare department of the Mothers' Congress, is Honorable Curtiss Hill, State Highway Engineer of Missouri.

The *Auto Review* and other road publications have gratuitously given space and favorable comments on the educational campaign for the improvement of the unused rural highways.

The Department has urged the building of a Great National Turnpike from New York to San Francisco, its completion to be celebrated simultaneously with that of the Panama Canal. This national highway to be for the plain people, who by that means alone can attend the great Exposition at San Francisco, and give a reward for the vast expenditures that have been made for the canal. Many wealthy people should build state laps, or smaller sections of road, as the greatest monument that can be reared to perpetuate the fame of their name. A notable example of the proper kind of monument to rear for universal benefit may be cited in that magnificent gift to the state of Delaware by Gen. T. Coleman Dupont, of the boulevard or highway across the state. General Dupont has written a very able argument in favor

of thus expending money for the benefit of all the people.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives of the State of Missouri invited the Committee to visit Jefferson City, in the interests of highway legislation during the session of 1910-1911.

The conservation of the country children is the most important economic and moral problem before the country to-day.

Unless transportation facilities unite the country firesides, and make possible mutual culture and social enjoyment in the farming community, similar to that which causes the appalling exodus of the country youth to the city—the realization of that devout petition, "Give us this day our daily bread" will, ere long, become literally true, and we shall ask in vain for sufficient food for the city's poor.

The purpose of the Country Life Department of the National Congress of Mothers is to work for the betterment of rural American childhood.

The most important first duty of this Committee is to stimulate the interest in and promote highway improvement for child welfare in every part of the United States.

Improved highways is the basic economic problem of rural child betterment.

The Highway Engineer is indirectly the most important agent and factor in the conservation of the material, educational, social and æsthetic welfare of the children of the agricultural districts.

The National Congress of Mothers is anxious to co-operate with all agencies for the betterment of childhood, and,

WHEREAS, A closer co-operation between the Highway Engineers of America and the American Motherhood will influence public opinion in favor of building roads for better citizenship by expert highway engineers; and

WHEREAS, It is conceded by physicians to be necessary to train children, our future citizens, in an elementary knowledge of the sciences of hygiene and anatomy in order that they may be impressed with the importance of preservation of health. Also it becomes equally important for highway engineers to endorse the teaching of the elementary principles of road building for the preservation not only of physical health, but also for the development of the commercial, educational, social, and hygienic conditions of the community surrounding them. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Association of Highway Engineers forming the American Highway League, recommend to the highway departments of their several states the appointment of a capable woman as special agent of the Association of Highway Engineers, who shall lecture throughout the state under the direction of the highway

engineers, with the stereopticon road pictures, so as to stir up public opinion in favor of taxation for permanent road construction for the general welfare, and also to create an intelligent sentiment in favor of teaching children the value of good permanent roads built only by skilled highway engineers.

Resolved, Second, that this League of State Highway Engineers endorse the teaching of the elementary principles of road construction in the public schools, so as to impress the school boy and girl with the importance of good roads, and the value of an advanced system of maintenance.

DEPARTMENT OF MARRIAGE SANCTITY

Mrs. Clarence E. Allen, Salt Lake, Utah, Chairman

Mrs. Clarke E. Vanwinkle, Salt Lake, Utah, Secretary

THE Committee for the maintenance of the Christian standard of marriage of the National Congress of Mothers has been doing tentative work for the year 1910-1911. The necessity for the work of such a committee is universally admitted. Various national societies have been formed for similar purposes and great organizations such as the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Women's Christian Temperance Union, the National Education Association, and others are devoting a considerable part of their efforts to the correction of sexual degeneracy. The effort embodied in the work of this committee of the National Congress of Mothers lays down an issue the most clear-cut and far-reaching so far formulated. The Christian standard of marriage is that of the monogamous family requiring an equal standard of sexual morality for both men and women. The weight of eminent authority is in favor of the conclusion that man was originally monogamous and declined in promiscuity. The historical and ethical basis of monogamy is well established and the instinctive practice of uncorrupted society is a strong foundation for belief if no other existed. The welfare of the child demands this form of family life, and this should be the supreme reason whether monogamy be the result of evolution in civilization or the natural habit of the genus homo. Christ preached monogamy of so uncompromising a character that even a wavering thought was a breaking of the law. This standard is in danger of being lost through a too confident attitude of mind on the part of Christians and the aggressive campaign of propaganda on the part of the enemies of Christian marriage. The loss of the Christian standard is shown in the prevalence of three evils—divorce, prostitution, and polygamy. The ratio of divorces to marriages is one to twelve, and divorces are increasing three times as fast as the population. The average length of married life, before divorce, is less than ten years, while the largest number of divorces fall in the fifth year after marriage. Changes

for the better in divorce laws look to a longer term of residence in the state where divorce is sought and some restriction as to the immediate marriage of divorced persons. Legal restrictions, however, seem to decrease divorce rate for but three or four years, after which they resume the original rate. The problem goes beyond mere legal measures for prevention and is one of the problems of the family considered as a social unit. The Christian standard of marriage accepted by society as a whole, would eliminate the divorce problem. Prostitution figures both as a cause and as a result of the loss of the Christian standard of marriage. The enormous human sacrifice demanded by this modern Moloch is the result of degenerate standards. Segregation of places of prostitution and their resultant protection by police authorities, the large amount of money invested in the business of prostitution overawing the moral forces which would curtail their profits—these constitute an actional factor in the false standards of marriage impossible to estimate. Not segregation nor protection, but *repression* tending toward elimination, is the recommendation of the Chicago Vice Commission. A careful study of this able report is recommended. Polygamy as preached and practised in America has been a powerful agent in breaking down the Christian standard of marriage. Three generations of Mormons have been active in teaching a degenerate form of family life. Thousands of missionaries have spread the doctrine through Europe and America. Mormons believe it because of the revelation of a so-called prophet. They preach it through perverting Bible teaching and quoting unreliable unscientific authorities which state that the natural man is polygamous. A sound national belief will result in practical measures to overcome every form of sexual immorality. The committee recommends the appointment of state representatives upon this national committee to propose practical and direct means of teaching the basis of monogamous family life.

Aims and Purposes of National Congress of Mothers

To raise the standards of home life. To develop wiser, better-trained parenthood.

To give young people, ignorant of the proper care and training of children, opportunities to learn this, that they may better perform the duties of parenthood.

To bring into closer relations the home and the school, that parent and teacher may coöperate intelligently in the education of the child.

To surround the childhood of the whole world with that loving, wise care in the impressionable years of life, that will develop good citizens, instead of lawbreakers and criminals.

To use systematic, earnest effort to this end, through the formation of Mothers' Clubs in every Public School and elsewhere; the establishment of Kindergartens, and laws which will adequately care for neglected and dependent children, in the firm belief that united, concerted work for little children will pay better than any other philanthropic work that can be done.

To carry the mother-love and mother-thought into all that concerns or touches childhood in Home, School, Church, State or Legislation.

To interest men and women to coöperate in the work for purer, truer homes, in the belief that to accomplish the best results, men and women must work together.

To secure such legislation as will ensure that children of tender years may not be tried in ordinary courts, but that each town shall establish juvenile courts and special officers, whose business it shall be to look out for that care which will rescue, instead of confirm, the child in evil ways.

To work for such probationary care in individual homes rather than institutions.

To rouse the whole community to a sense of its duty and responsibility to the blameless, dependent and neglected children, because there is no philanthropy which will so speedily reduce our taxes, reduce our prison expensés, reduce the expense of institutions for correction and reform.

The work of the Congress is civic work in its broadest and highest sense, and every man or woman who is interested in the aims of the Congress is cordially invited to become a member and aid in the organized effort for a higher, nobler national life, which can only be attained through the individual homes.

State News

IMPORTANT NOTICE

News items from the States must be in the hands of the editorial board by the fifteenth of the previous month to ensure their appearance in the next magazine. The editorial board earnestly asks the attention of every press chairman to the necessity of complying with this rule.

State Conventions Mothers' Congress

SEPTEMBER

Tennessee: Knoxville, September 21.

(Mothers' Congress at Appalachian Exposition.)

OCTOBER

New York: Glens Falls, October 2-5.

Pennsylvania: Williamsport, October 5-7.

Mississippi: Hattiesburg, October—.

NOVEMBER

Ohio, Cleveland, November 1-3.

Oregon: Portland, November 1-4.

(Child Welfare Conference Exhibit.)

New Jersey: Plainfield, November 10-11.

CALIFORNIA

The annual convention of the Mothers' Congress in California met at Long Beach the middle of May. Two hundred and thirteen circles were reported as members of the Congress. Mrs. A. L. Hamilton of Pasadena was re-elected president. The

vice-presidents are Mrs. D. G. Stephens, Santa Monica; Mrs. Thomas H. Seabury, Berkeley; Mrs. A. B. Edmondson, Santa Barbara; Mrs. M. L. O'Neal, San Francisco; Mrs. E. H. Noe, Los Angeles; Mrs. C. A. Bronaugh, Alhambra; Mrs. Phil Crockett, Graham; Mrs. A. B. Armstrong, Fowler; Recording Secretary, Mrs. E. L.

Geraldine; Secretary, Mrs. Edwin Knowlton, 233 Franklin Ave., Pasadena; Treasurer, Mrs. A. L. Colby, 3623 Sunset Bldg., Los Angeles.

The California Congress sent Mrs. A. L. Hamilton and Mrs. C. C. Noble as delegates to Washington. Mrs. Hamilton also attended the National Education Association at San Francisco, representing the Mothers' Congress in the Department of School Patrons.

CONNECTICUT

The growth of the work in the interest of child welfare in Connecticut has been steady and of a very substantial kind from its inception in the state. That a greater interest exists now than ever before is gained from the large attendance of the Executive Board meetings, held every two months in the year except the month of August, and by the increasing membership of many of the older clubs and the fact that five new clubs have affiliated with the Congress during the year.

The annual conference was held in Waterbury, April 20 and 21. A reception and banquet were held the first evening. A fine programme was given, and delegates came from all the clubs in the state.

Mrs. W. H. Macdonald, the state organizer, has spent much time in the formation of new clubs in addition to her duties as president of the Hartford Child Welfare Club, a club which has shown much interest in all things pertaining to the betterment of homes and the uplift of the little child.

Three subjects have been particularly emphasized in many of the clubs this year—child welfare, home economics, ventilation.

Last year, at the annual convention of the National Congress of Mothers, Connecticut pledged one hundred dollars to the National, and that pledge has been redeemed, making one hundred and fifty dollars given by Connecticut in the past two years, and if the state is small and is often accused of being very conservative, even to the degree of being slow, it takes its share in this matter, thereby increasing its interest in the National by sharing responsibility, as well as all the good things, by being in it and of it.

There can be no greater work than taking a little child from a life of degrading influences and lifting it into the realm of truth and love, in His name.

(Mrs.) B. L. MOTT.
President C. C. M.

IOWA

The Iowa Congress of Mothers, with the co-operation of the agriculture extension department of the Iowa State College, con-

ducted a unique contest at the Iowa state fair grounds in the Iowa State college building, August 29. To find the healthiest baby in Iowa was the object of the contest.

The old-time baby shows awarded prizes for the prettiest babies, but this contest was entirely different. Each baby was judged solely on physical points, just as fine stock is judged at the fair. Height, weight in comparison with height, firmness of flesh and color of skin were some of the points considered. The judges were leading physicians and children's specialists. The babies were cared for by trained nurses and every facility for their comfort provided.

Talks to mothers on "balanced rations," "fresh air," and "proper clothing" were given.

The object of the unique contest was to call attention of the mothers and fathers in the state to the pressing need of careful child study and care. As an officer of the State Mothers' Congress remarked: "Iowa builds circular hog-houses for her fine swine, but provides square, poorly ventilated school-houses for her children. Our people must learn that sunshine, fresh air and proper food are as necessary to the perfect physical development of boys and girls as for fine live stock. We do not claim that Iowa is giving too much attention to the breeding of hogs and cattle, but that she does not give enough thought to the welfare of her children."

MAINE

Calais, Maine, is actively interested in extending the organization of parents. The Congress extends a cordial welcome to the Parent-Teacher Association of Calais.

NEW YORK

REPORT OF THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY OF MOTHERS, 1911

When in the year 1899 a little band of women received from the State of New York their seal of incorporation, the most sanguine of their number failed to picture the broad field of usefulness now open to the 44 affiliated clubs with their active membership of over 2,000. The modest desire to educate inexperienced mothers in the care of their little ones and of their homes soon brought workers and school teachers together, who were glad to co-operate with parents and, as a result, there are noted improvements in the schools. Having gained the co-operation of parents and teachers it became comparatively easy to interest the board of Education.

The next step forward led to the more ambitious task of helping to beautify our cities. In his last annual message, the Mayor of Albany, in speaking of the beau-

tiful park system of the city, commented appreciatively on the three playgrounds equipped and maintained by the Albany Mothers' Club under a salaried director and several assistants.

Under the able leadership of our beloved President, Mrs. John D. Whish of Albany, notable progress in all departments of the work has been made during the past year. Nearly every club in the State has received a visit from her during that period.

It is hardly possible to point to any club as the banner club of the State, as each one studies to supply the needs of a particular locality.

Some clubs have prominent men for presidents, thus showing the awakened interest which the men of the State are taking in this important movement.

In a course of study of the high cost of living one club gave two practical lessons in economics which took the form of dinners of three or four courses, the cost of which must not exceed 25 cents per plate, that amount to include every article, even the salt and pepper. The club also issued cook-books containing fifty recipes, the demand for which greatly exceeded the supply.

A synopsis of the work done by the clubs follows: Medical inspection in the schools has been instituted, one club paying the expenses of a trained nurse for several months to prove the wisdom of adopting the plan permanently; funds were supplied to a school association to pay a noted speaker at an annual meeting. Emergency boxes were provided in the schools for use in case of accident and in one city an emergency room has been fitted up.

Valuable libraries, pictures, statuary, drawing models, etc., have been presented to schools, while in one city the Mothers' Club has assumed the responsibility of decorating two new school buildings.

Many school grounds have been beautified and a majority of the schools have been equipped with complete outfits for the teaching of domestic science and manual training.

In nearly every instance these innovations were brought about and paid for by the mothers' organization. One school owes its beautiful assembly hall to the Mothers' Club.

Lunches are supplied to deficient children and lunch counters at high schools are under the same supervision.

Mothers' clubs have co-operated most heartily with civic improvement leagues or other organizations working for the uplift of our children, for as Mrs. Anna Ramsay, probation officer of Philadelphia, says in speaking of the many children brought to the Juvenile Court, "They are our children under other circumstances, differently brought up, differently trained, but they are just our own children."

Clubs in the larger cities have investigated the moving picture shows and in some instances have written to the managers asking that educational pictures be substituted for those of the wild west and the underworld. Petitions have been sent to several mayors asking that a board of censorship be appointed. Much is being done to discourage cheap shows, and great success followed the war that one Mothers' Club made on objectionable posters. A complaint from a Mothers' Club to the National President of the American Bill Posters' Association resulted in the removal of a certain advertisement from every bill-board in America.

The philanthropic work of the clubs outside of the schools is extensive and varied. Last year a club in a small city furnished Christmas dinners and gifts to over 250 little ones, donations to hospitals, sea-shore camps, almshouses, tuberculosis camps, etc., and provided maternity bags fitted with all the necessities for the comfort of mother and baby, ready for the call of the destitute; nurses were supplied and doctors' bills paid—all done in the name of Him who said, "Inasmuch as ye do it unto one of the least of these ye do it unto Me."

Some of our most progressive cities owe their beautifully equipped playgrounds to their Mothers' Clubs. One city has seven such parks and ball grounds maintained by the mothers' organization at an annual expenditure of \$1,400, while many of them maintain three or four with salaried directors and assistants.

One club teaches a class of 100 children how to sew, for a penny each, one lesson a week.

In some cities there are seven or eight parents' and teachers' association.

Some of the clubs supply foreign speakers to interest the foreign mothers.

The following subjects have been discussed during the past year: Reading for the Young, Trade Schools, Public Playgrounds, Thrift, Progressive Pedagogy, Art, Nature Study, Types of Manhood, Vocational Schools, Choosing Careers for Coming Men and Women, Athletics for Boys, Athletics for Girls, Mother the Creator in Character Building, Art as a Factor in Education, Sanitary Housekeeping, Imagination a Necessity to the Mother, Value of Parent Organizations, Relation of Parent Organizations to Health, Mental and Spiritual Development, Social and Community Conditions and as a Medium of Education for Parents, Allowances, Infantile Paralysis and Medical Inspection of Schools, The Home and its Decoration, Social Life in High School and University, Amusements, Organized Games and Playgrounds; Educational Factors in the First Twelve Years of a Child's Life (1, Home; 2, Church; 3, School; 4, Street); Co-Education in Grammar and High School, Kin-

Kindergarten Gifts and Children's Toys; Children's occupations in Kindergarten and at Home; What Shall our Children Sing? Pictures and how to use them, Nature and our Children, Care of Children.

Four executive meetings are held each year, one of necessity in Albany, the other three divided as equally as possible throughout the State.

Chairmen of the various committees are capable and active.

As in China physicians are employed to prevent illness, so the mothers of New York State are striving to prevent juvenile delinquency as well as to cure it, working for a Golden Age to come when "The lion and the lamb shall lie down together," and "A little child shall lead them."

ALICE M. MACKENZIE,
Corresponding Secretary.

OREGON

THE OREGON CONGRESS OF MOTHERS AT CHAUTAUQUA

Mothers' Day at Gladstone Park under the auspices of the State Congress of Mothers was a live day. At an early hour, mothers with their little families, and fathers too, members from the various parent-teachers' clubs and those interested in the welfare of the little ones thronged the park.

Mrs. R. H. Tate, president of the Oregon Congress of Mothers, gave the address of the morning. She brought to her audience a wealth of enthusiasm and inspiration from the recent international Congress as well as messages from the great leaders in the world-wide movement for better conditions in the home and a fair chance for the child.

Mrs. Clara Waldo Regent of the Oregon Agricultural College, followed with an eloquent appeal for thorough training for girls in domestic science and home economics. Mrs. Waldo has made a study of industrial conditions in European countries, as well as in the homeland, and her plea was strong for teaching home-making as a science as well as an art.

In the afternoon Mrs. W. L. Hawkins of the Oregon Congress presided at the round table.

Dr. N. J. Baxter, D.D.S., D.C., closed the day's programme with a practical talk on proper foods and how to prepare a wholesome menu.

All through the Chautauqua session a kindergarten under efficient teachers had been maintained by the State Congress. Their open-air pavilion stands in a grove of oaks and Oregon fir and is deliciously cool even during the hot July days. After the regular morning session older children were admitted, and all were entertained with games under the supervision of the

teachers. This is a splendid work and the germs of observation, concentration and application sown in those childish minds are not the least of the work for better ideals done at Chautauqua.

PENNSYLVANIA

The Congress's offer of Scholarships in the Summer School University of Pennsylvania brought forth many more requests than it was possible to grant. Among the applications approved were those of teachers from Wilkes-Barre, Langhorne, Somerset, Darby, Mt. Airy, and Gettysburg.

Much interest is aroused and vigorous work of preparation is going on for the Bazaar to be held in Horticultural Hall, Philadelphia, the first week in November. Each town in which a Congress branch exists is to be represented by its own table or section, and individual members of every circle are vying with each other in securing or making articles which shall be transformed into money, this same money again to go forth in extension work. Only so can we communicate, distribute, grow.

Swarthmore being so near a suburb of Philadelphia is planning to have "the" table, and the Philadelphia Mothers' Club will be in charge of the cake table. There will be a Tea Room, where friends may drop in, rest from shopping or sightseeing, be refreshed, and become better acquainted with the faithful co-workers. This seeing face-to-face is a great inspiration and gives fresh impetus to those who had previously felt marooned, even discouraged at times when all was not just as flourishing as the proverbial bay tree, and the home club seemed lethargic. This coming together of the parts or factions of the whole is vitalizing always. Then the importance, the dignity, the worth of it all are impressed by the earnestness and activity of the zealous ones met.

Coincident with the bazaar, and but a few squares away, in Philadelphia's City Hall, will be held the Child-Welfare Exhibit or Planning Conference. Both may be visited at the same time, November 3 and 4.

The Twelfth Annual Convention will be held in Williamsport, October 5, 6 and 7. Sessions at Park Hotel Auditorium, and Central Presbyterian Church when greater space is needed. Williamsport promises to be a generous hostess. The Programme Committee has found it quite a puzzle, but a pleasant one, to make time and place for the many courtesies that are to be extended. Delegates and visitors can find agreeable private or hotel accommodation, and for this a local committee is arranging. Mrs. N. C. Chatam, 325 Centre Street, Williamsport, will be glad to instruct or direct those needing information.

All are cordially invited to attend the

coming convention. These gatherings may be likened to the seed-time of the Congress year—seed time of the coming, and harvest of the past, for 'tis then that we lay plans for future and learn of past fruition. Come to the Convention and bring your friends. We must go forward yearly.

(Mrs.) CHARLES M. STONE,
Press Chairman, Swarthmore, Pa.

TEXAS

El Paso has several fine parents' organizations. While I am writing this, terrific battles are raging at Juarez across the river. Many have been killed and wounded here in El Paso from stray bullets. One large Mauser bullet crashed through my parlor window—which is two miles from the scene of battle. We were much frightened but not hurt.

We are doing splendid work in Texas.

SAN ANTONIO

One of the most important sessions of the Mothers' Congress, or Southwestern Parent-Teachers' Association, held this season convened in the Camden Street clubhouse. Officers for next season were elected, and the annual reports of all the association officers and committee chairmen were given in. The association has been unusually active during the past year, and its members have accomplished much good and promoted many excellent movements for the betterment of the conditions of living. Mrs. A. H. Cadwallader, who has served since last May as the President of the Association, retired from her office in favor of the newly-elected President, Mrs. Ross Davis.

A resolution was adopted that the President appoint a committee of two to confer with the management of the newspapers in San Antonio with reference to elevating the tone of the Sunday supplements. It was urged that the observance of Mothers' Day, which is May 14, be made even more general than at present.

One of the most important of the officers' reports read before those in attendance upon the Congress yesterday was the annual statement of Mrs. Cadwallader. The report in full is as follows:

"As an organization we are pledged to certain lines of forward work, all of which have received the earnest attention of some dozen or more active and efficient standing committees.

"The educative work of the Congress has moved forward through a series of lectures, addresses and papers given at the open meetings held the first Saturday in every month at the Woman's Clubhouse. These discourses have been practical and helpful and have covered a wide range of sub-

jects calculated to raise the standard of home and school and to develop a wiser and better-trained parenthood.

"In order to study all conditions that affect the physical, mental and moral welfare of the child, the Congress sent representatives to the Child Welfare Conference, to the semi-annual conference of the Texas Congress of Mothers, and to the State Conference of Charities and Corrections. At this latter meeting one of our number was chosen as chairman of an important committee.

"To promote laws for the safeguarding of childhood the Congress sent letters to State Senators and Representatives in behalf of the child labor bill, compulsory education, rural high schools, school sanitation and hygiene, medical inspection in public schools and the abolishing of the public drinking cup.

"Members of the Congress have visited the city's moving-picture shows and other places of amusement and have, under advisement, plans for censorship of the same.

"In addition to the thirty clubs that are now affiliated with the Congress it has been a pleasure to recently receive the Alamo Heights Mothers' Club, the Austin Grammar School Club, the Belton Mothers' Club, the Blanco Club, and the Devine Mothers' Club.

"The campaign for pure food has been an important item in this year's work and among other things a petition was sent to the City Council asking that the regulation requiring all food stuffs to be protected from flies and dirt be more carefully enforced. A petition was also sent to the School Board, asking for the abolishment of the public drinking cup and explaining how a paper cup could be made easily by the smallest child from tablet paper. A petition was sent to the president of the Carnival Association, asked that no shows be permitted during Carnival week that would be in the least objectionable. We received assurances that this would be strictly attended to, and it was.

"The mutual aid department of the Congress has done much practical work this year in furnishing books and garments to school children in need of the same.

"The playground committee contributed \$6 in cash to aid the cause, and took two boxes at the theatre, when the receipts were to be for the benefit of the Playground Association.

"The Congress has subscribed for those excellent magazines, *Texas Motherhood* and *Child Welfare*, and ordered a copy of each to be sent to every affiliated mothers' club in the Congress.

"We have made a record this year in distributing leaflets. Thousands of educative pamphlets have been given out through the Congress to the mothers' club on a variety of subjects.

UTAH

REPORT OF UTAH CONGRESS OF MOTHERS FOR
1910-1911

The Utah Congress of Mothers has made substantial progress in 1910-1911. The membership has doubled. The organization has grown from one circle to three, all in flourishing condition.

The Congregational Mothers' Club, Mrs. C. D. Kipp, president, has already won a considerable place for itself, and the central organization will have to see to it that it is not surpassed in enthusiasm and attendance by an auxiliary organization. The Mothers' Club of the Christian Church, Mrs. H. T. Sappington, president, starts out with a determination to be useful in their church organization. Plans are nearly perfected in several churches for other clubs. The newly appointed chairman for Utah of the Parent-teacher organizations is hopeful of securing the formation of Mothers' Clubs in some of the schools. The strength of the Mothers' Congress in Utah is three times as great as at the beginning of the year, and the prospects are that another year will see a proportionate increase.

The executive board has held monthly meetings on the last Thursday of each month at the home of the president. These meetings have been full of almost painful interest. Not a week has passed by without a report being made to the president or some other member of the board of a local condition which should be corrected. The Mothers' Congress seems to be the organization to which all citizens turn when there is a wrong to be righted or some good to be done. I say citizens advisedly, for not only women but men have presented their causes for the consideration of the Mothers' Congress.

A large number of the reports which have come to the Executive Board relate to the moral conditions of our city. The deplorable laxity of parents in this community has produced a corresponding degeneracy in the character of the children, particularly noticeable in children of high school age. The condition of girls discharged from the Industrial Home requires attention from conscientious citizens. The dress of young girls in the eighth grade and in the high school, inappropriate and too expensive, has also received attention. The committee appointed to act on this question has received much encouragement from the public schools and the president of the university. Various practical plans for producing better conditions in the schools are under way, such as a school housekeeper to superintend the janitor work of the public schools, and a school matron to superintend the lavatories and toilet rooms.

The lectures given before the central

circle have been full of interest. The thanks of the Congress are due to President Kingsbury of the University of Utah, and to the professors who have so kindly given their services. We are also deeply indebted to Bishop F. S. Spalding for the use of the assembly room of Rowland Hall for our meetings.

Through the courtesy of Mrs. W. S. McCormick, who opened her house for a silver tea for this purpose, we have been able to pay the sum pledged by our state to the National Congress of Mothers. The sum of one hundred dollars seems large in proportion to our membership, but we shall receive a return benefit in the help given through the national departments.

We were happy to have, as delegates to the International Conference for the Welfare of the Child, Mrs. W. S. McCormick and Mrs. R. U. Seigel, who worthily represented us in Washington. We shall start the next year with a confidence born of experience, and a hope that we shall see many of the good plans laid out this year brought to a successful conclusion.

VERMONT

In Vermont the school directors of any town or city or district may appoint one or more medical inspectors for their schools, the compensation being fixed by the school directors. Such inspectors shall examine the pupils of said schools. This act has just been passed and takes effect September 11, 1911. It was approved November 11, 1910. Twelve years ago the Vermont State board of health established an annual school of instruction for these officers; this was an entirely new movement in the history of medicine, but it proved of so much value that now nearly every state in the Union has a similar school. Not only did Vermont establish the first health officers' school, but it also instituted one of the first state laboratories where specimens may be examined free of charge.

In 1907 work was done at the laboratory which, if paid for at the usual rate, would have cost over \$40,000. Last year, 1910, over \$60,000 work was done, all this on an annual appropriation of \$15,000.

School inspection is now insisted upon in the State of Vermont not only in the city but in district schools. The State board employs a sanitary engineer whose duty is to inspect school houses and to look after the physical condition of the school children. A supervisor is maintained over food and drug supplies by the State Board of Health; our State laws relating to these subjects equal any in the country and are enforced with vigor.

A beautiful sanatorium has been built in Pittsford—a gift of Senator Proctor, for tuberculosis patients.

In Rutland, Vt., six years ago, Mothers' Clubs or "Patrons Societies" were established in every school ward in the city. Mothers kept in touch with the teachers, ideas were exchanged, articles relative to mothers' education and child welfare were exchanged, pictures were purchased for every school room. When the superintendent then in office passed out the interest ceased. I believe it can be easily resurrected. Now young girls are being educated in Normal Schools, pledging themselves to teach in the Normal Schools for a certain length of time.

We have no Juvenile Courts but children under sixteen years are seldom arrested.

There are bad conditions in some rural districts. One woman of Rutland, Vermont, has taken from an immoral home, four children, and is educating and clothing them, hiring a woman of excellent reputation to train them for service, and homes by adoption.

The benefit of good roads is a strong factor in Vermont. As in every place, city or rural district, the great problem is not so much what to do with our boys as what to do with our girls. It seems to me that we must educate the *mothers*, cause them to be wise, watchful, true in life and word, causing not so much to decorate the body as to make strong and pure the souls of our children, then the welfare of the child is assured.

The University of Vermont has had courses of from four to six weeks in agriculture and domestic science, and any person can avail himself of these courses for small compensation.

The use of the drinking cup is prohibited in Vermont.

A new law requires all milk sold to be put in sanitary jars, no milk sold from the can; all milk is inspected.

Cooking, sewing and manual training are part of the school work in the city schools. (Mrs.) HENRY A. HARMAN,
Governor's Delegate.

WASHINGTON

Tacoma has organized twelve Parent-Teacher Circles in the schools, and will soon organize in each school in the city.

Several hundred members have already united with the Congress. Mrs. Elwell Hoyt is President of the Central Committee.

The annual convention of the Washington Congress of Mothers was held at Tacoma, June 7. There was a good attendance and bright promise for the future. Mrs. Frank R. Hill, who has given liberally her time and money as well as whole-hearted devotion to organizing mothers of Washington, declined to serve longer as president as she is to make an extended trip abroad. Mrs. Frank Hubbel, of Seattle, was elected president, and Mrs. Rosling, of Tacoma, was re-elected treasurer. The corresponding secretary is Mrs. Quigley, 224 Seventh Avenue, North Seattle. Mrs. Wm. Seymour, Tacoma, and Mrs. Arthur Gunn, Wenatchee, were elected as vice-presidents. Mrs. Alexander Coult, Tacoma, is recording secretary.

Reports were received from the Mothers' Child Study Circles. Mrs. Elwell Hoyt, of Tacoma, gave an interesting report of the Second International Congress on Child Welfare to which she was sent as a delegate by the Mothers' Circles of Tacoma.

The needs of rural children, open air schools and home economics were among the topics on the programme.

WEST VIRGINIA

The Spencer Mothers' Club of Spencer has joined the Mothers' Congress. The president is Mrs. H. H. Staats.

WISCONSIN

The Wisconsin branch of the Mothers' Congress met in Milwaukee, June 9 and 10, for the first annual convention. The work showed good progress for the first year. Delegates were present from Racine, Madison, Oshkosh, Fort Atkinson, and other towns.

The officers remain as before. Mrs. Orville T. Bright, National Vice-President, attended and addressed the Congress. Mrs. William Howard Crosby, president Wisconsin Federation of Womens' Clubs, was also in attendance and on the programme.

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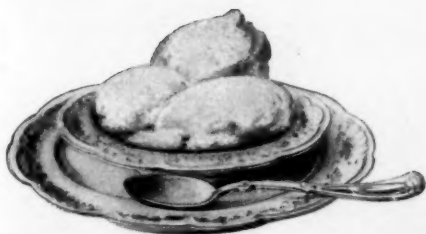
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